

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

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### CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.....	173
Leading Articles:—	
The Alleged Conspiracy in Manila .....	174
The Growth of Trade at Shanghai and Hongkong.....	174
Trade between Japan and Indo-China.....	175
Taxation of Manufactures in China .....	175
Public Lighting and the Walsbach Burners .....	175
A Conspiracy in Manila.....	176
Affairs in Formosa.....	176
North Formosa.....	176
Supreme Court .....	179
Hongkong Sanitary Board .....	180
Determined Murder at Hongham.....	180
Organic Hostility at the Roman Catholic Cathedral.....	180
Serious Affray in Hongkong Waters .....	181
The Wharfedale Memorial Fund .....	181
Hongkong Golf Club .....	181
Hongkong Rifle Association .....	181
Correspondence .....	181
Proposed Tariff on Manufactures in China .....	182
Colonel Denby's Narrow Escape .....	182
The Pitho .....	183
Prompt Settlement of the Soochow Difficulty .....	183
The Railway Question .....	183
Hongkong and Port News.....	184
Commercial .....	185
Shipping .....	188

### BIRTH.

On the 29th August, at 2, Seymour Road, the wife of T. K. DEARY, of a son. [1895]

### DEATHS.

At "Devonia," Hongkong, on the 28th August, EDITH SARA SHELTON, the dearly beloved daughter of A. SHELTON and SARAH HOOPER, aged 5 years. [1839]

At Karuzawa, on the 17th August, CORA AUGUSTA, wife of Professor GARRATT DROPPERS.

At Shanghai, on the 24th August, 1896, LOUISE, the beloved wife of Capt. George AUSTIN, aged 42 years.

At Chefoo, on the 24th August, 1896, JAMES PRICE, late master of the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Jiangling*, after a short illness.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 31st July arrived, per M. M. steamer *Natal*, on the 1st September (32 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Japanese Foreign Office has been notified by the Premier that the new treaty with Germany has been ratified by the Emperor. The ratifications will be exchanged early in October next.

The state of the Pitho occasions serious uneasiness at Tientsin. It is said that if prompt and drastic measures are not taken for the improvement of the river, steamers will have to abandon Tientsin altogether in favour of Tangku.

From Peking we (*Mercury*) hear that Sir Robert Hart will issue instructions requiring shipments of treasure to be passed through and examined by the Customs as the only possible step for stopping the shipment of counterfeits to foreign countries, as complained of by the Ministers of Spain and the Netherlands.

From the Custom Returns we notice that forty-seven transit passes were issued at Canton during the quarter ended 30th June. From this it would seem that Mr. John Andrew's initiative is already being followed up to some extent.

A despatch received from Peking reports that the Tsungli Yamen has decided to consider the new ports of Soochow and Hangchow open to trade on or about the 1st or 2nd of October next, when the I.M. Customs will begin their duties there.

Like the Hongkong, Shanghai, and other Chambers of Commerce, the Tientsin Chamber has recorded its protest against the heavy increase of telegraph rates recently sprung upon the commercial communities of the East by the Telegraph Companies.

We (*N.C. Daily News*) understand that Messrs. Fergusson & Co. have official knowledge that full compensation will be made them for the loss of their foreshore rights. We mentioned some days ago that Sir Claude MacDonald had made this stipulation with the Tsungli Yamen.

The *Siam Free Press* says:—It is asserted that Mr. de Bunsen will apply for leave on his return from Java, and that after leaving Bangkok he is likely to receive a home appointment, probably at Vienna. His probable successor is spoken of as Mr. Paget, now representing Great Britain at Kobe.

The fugitives in Formosa who fled to the hills during the recent troubles have not yet returned to their homes, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Japanese to induce them to do so, as they distrust the promises made as to their future safety from outrage.

A shocking murder was committed at Hongham on the 25th August, an old woman being hacked to death and a man who was in her company being also severely injured. They were in partnership as necromancers and the crime was committed by a party of boatmen who were under the impression that the couple were using spells against them.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *Mercury* writes:—The China and Foreign Bank, under the directorship of our old friends Messrs. A. Michie and G. Detring, and their former colleague Ching, instead of being situated close to the North Gate will be just below the Iron Bridge which spans the Grand Canal, and therefore in close proximity to the Viceroy's Yamen. The Bank was opened yesterday (16th August) in grand Chinese style, red bunting and the usual decorative accessories being in great abundance. Mr. A. Michie is expected to arrive here next month.

M. Dubail, the popular Consul-General for France at Shanghai, being on the eve of his departure for Europe, was waited upon by a large number of the French community on the 23rd August, and presented with a handsome silver cup as a token of respect and remembrance. The presentation was made the occasion of an eloquent address from M. Chapsal, to which M. Dubail replied, thanking his countrymen for their token, which he said he would greatly appreciate. The proceedings were brought to a close by a hospitable invitation from M. Dubail to partake of refreshments.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 13th August says:—The proposed steamship service of the War Department between Japan and Formosa will be made a weekly service, instead of three times a month. The steamers are open to carry a few passengers and a certain amount of cargo. They will run between Kobe and Kelung via Moji and Nagasaki, and the management of the service will be entrusted to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The Government has had under consideration a proposal to subsidize some company to open a steamship service to Formosa and Vladivostok, but the project has been abandoned for the present fiscal year and steamers chartered by the Naval and Military Departments will be used.

The destruction to property and lives by the tidal waves and floods at Haichao last Chinese month was much greater than was first reported. Latest accounts give the total number of houses washed away or otherwise damaged as 2,000, while 600 salt beds with thousands of piculs of salt in them were destroyed. 300 people belonging to the Imperial salt works perished in the waves and hundreds more amongst the fishermen and other inhabitants on the edge of the shore lost their lives. For six days the place was under water, varying from 7 to 15 feet deep. The salt commission authorities are relieving the sufferers with commendable promptitude and generosity, 10,000 taels in money and 15,000 piculs of grain having been distributed since the catastrophe.—*Mercury*.

A serious political crisis has arisen in Manila, where the authorities claim to have discovered a plot for the overthrow of the Government. About four hundred arrests have been made and great excitement prevails. It is alleged, however, on the other side, that the so-called plot has been promoted by the priests, who have acted as *agents provocateurs*, their objects being to consolidate the power of the religious orders by making it appear that the national integrity is in danger, to get rid of enemies by denouncing them as conspirators, and to impress upon the Spanish Government the importance of making an addition to the European troops in the islands to hold the natives in subjection. According to the latest news received some fighting had taken place.

The *Foochow Echo* publishes the following extract from a letter of the 21st August:—The rates of freight demanded and, unfortunately, obtained here by that leech-like combination commonly known as "The London Homeward Conference," are considered monstrous when compared with those which the same clique accepts willingly or unwillingly does not alter the position from Ceylon. To demonstrate the point most clearly the following figures, culled from recent and reliable sources, are given:—*Banled* and *Glenarry* sailed from Foochow on the 11th and 18th June, 1896, respectively, having loaded tea here at 36/- net per ton of 40 cubic ft. or equal to 45/- net per ton of 50 cubic ft. These two steamers called at Colombo on their homeward voyages and sailed thence on the 7th and 13th July, with tea loaded there at 12/6 per ton of 50 cubic ft. or 10/- per ton of 40 cubic ft. This means in plain figures that Foochow teas bear a tax of three-eighths of a penny per lb. In the face of this we cannot see how Foochow teas can ever compete with those of British growth.



### THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY AT MANILA.

Little apprehension need be entertained, we think, that the trouble in Manila, reported in another column, will have any serious result, except, perhaps, for the unfortunate persons accused of being implicated in the conspiracy, and who have been thrown into prison. If ever there was a chance of success for a rebellion in the islands it should be now, when the Madrid Government has its hands full with the Cuban insurrection, which is draining Spain both of men and money. But the population of the Philippines is very different in its constitution from that of Cuba. In the latter the Spaniards, or persons of Spanish descent, compose two-thirds of the population, the remaining third being negroes, and it is among the Spaniards themselves that the standard of revolt has been raised. In the Philippines, on the other hand, the Spaniards constitute a very small section of the population and the discontent is confined to the natives and the mestizos, or half-castes, the latter being the more active spirits in the movement. That the Government and the priests lay a heavy yoke on the people, that extortion and corruption are rampant, and that there is in many respects good reason for discontent there can be no doubt, but there can equally, we think, be no doubt that the party of discontent are quite incapable of achieving emancipation from Spanish rule. The natives are not of the material of which successful revolutionists are made; they have no high aspirations, nor does the spirit of self-sacrifice find much place amongst them. The mestizos might be dangerous if they were in sufficient number, but in Manila, the capital, the Spanish mestizos are less than four thousand, and the Chinese mestizos, who number forty thousand, would not be likely to take any part in a movement which, however it turned out, would not be likely to do any good to them. The fact that the garrison is mainly composed of natives may constitute a source of danger, but the troops are officered by Spaniards, and, we believe, there is no serious discontent amongst them. However, if a revolution did break out and were carried to a successful end it would be a misfortune from every point of view; it would mean a relapse into savagery, for the natives are not sufficiently advanced to set up any respectable form of government for themselves, nor are the Spanish mestizos a sufficiently numerous or influential class to hold the power in their own hands. We believe it was decided some time ago to increase the European garrison, but Spain has had to send all her available men to Cuba, and it is doubtful whether even the present scare in Manila will be sufficient to secure another regiment for the Philippines. It will be wise, however, to add to the European troops as soon as possible, but in the meantime such danger as exists might be materially reduced by inquiring into the grievances of the natives in a sympathetic spirit and redressing them where they are seen to be well founded.

#### II.

In another column we publish a bitter attack on the priesthood of the Philippines, who are accused of acting, for interested and mercenary motives, as *agents provocateurs* in fomenting conspiracies against the Government and then denouncing those who have fallen into their toils. The evidence goes to show that the present trouble in Manila has had some such origin, that the alleged conspiracy is quite a bogus affair, and that

there was never any thought of revolting against established authority. It is possible however, that a perusal of the protest may lead to a too sweeping condemnation of the priests, many of whom, individually, are most excellent men, doing a great deal of good in the country. In the rural districts the priest is not unfrequently the only European, he stands for civilisation and morality; and by his moral influence preserves order. It is not the tyranny of the individual priests that is to be complained of so much as that of the monastic orders to which they belong. The secular clergy possess little or no influence, the great orders being paramount and all the vicarages and curacies being held by their members. But societies will often perpetrate acts in their corporate capacity that would be repugnant to the members individually, and the religious orders in the Philippines, being no exception to this rule, resort to contemptible and criminal measures for the consolidation and preservation of their power, influence, and wealth. The position of the Friars is very lucidly discussed in Mr. FOREMAN's interesting work on the Philippines. After referring to the great influence they exercise, Mr. FOREMAN goes on to say:—"But the Friars are undoubtedly losing ground among a certain class. Natives are emerging yearly by hundreds from their mental obscurity. Already the intellectual struggle for freedom from mystic enthrallment has commenced without injury to faith in things really divine. Each decade brings some reform in the relations between the parish priest and the people. Link by link the chain of priestcraft encompassing the development of the colony is yielding to natural causes. The most enlightened natives themselves are beginning to understand that their spiritual wants are not the only care of the priests, and that the aim of the church, through its satellites, is to monopolise all in the world worth having, and to subordinate to their common will all beyond their mystic circle." But the orders cling tenaciously to their power, and for its preservation are not above resorting to the vilest trickery. When a man is known to entertain liberal views and to range himself in opposition to the claims of the priesthood he can be got rid of by denouncing him as being engaged in plots and conspiracies, when he is banished to some remote settlement and his property wholly or partially confiscated, the religious orders enjoying its reversion. Liberty of the press does not exist in the country and thus these acts of injustice are usually unheard of beyond the circle of the victim's personal acquaintance. A system such as this must necessarily engender discontent and provide material for the *agents provocateurs* of plots and conspiracies to work upon. The exposure of the present plot, however, may have an effect contrary to that its instigators anticipated, and instead of crushing out all aspirations for freedom may lead to a further yielding of "the chain of priestcraft encompassing the development of the colony." With the Cuban trouble on its hands Spain would be wise to see to it that the religious orders in the Philippines are not allowed to cultivate the seeds of discontent for their own interested purposes, lest an outbreak occur beyond the power of those who provoke it to control or subdue.

According to the *Shanghai Daily Press* it is intended to do away with the Home Guard and to create a Reserve force to the Shanghai Volunteers.

### THE GROWTH OF TRADE AT SHANGHAI AND HONGKONG.

In reviewing the Chinese Customs returns for the April-June quarter the *Shanghai Mercury* makes some references to this colony which in several respects are far from accurate. "On the whole," says our contemporary, "the Customs reports may be taken as showing a satisfactory improvement in the body of trade. They bear out what we have previously remarked as to the distinctions between North and South. In this respect Shanghai contrasts with Hongkong; while trade in the South remains stationary or retrogrades, trade in the North progresses fairly satisfactorily. A good deal of this is doubtless due to natural causes, but more of it is due to remediable influences. The guilds and other trading combinations in the South have always been stronger than in the North, and we have in our business arrangements more or less permitted ourselves to be made their tools. We have, in fact, sworn brotherhood with the monopolists and have quietly submitted rather than raise a contest, or change our ways. With all respect to Hongkong, it has never made any real protest. It has complained to the Minister, it is true, but it has never put its own shoulder to the wheel. What has it done to support Mr. ANDREW, for instance? It has written to the Minister, and the minutes of the Chamber of Commerce bear testimony to some brave words. They have begun and ended in words; the merchant has gone back to his counting office and summoned his comprador. The comprador has grinned and contrived a few more monopolies in his guild, and the merchant has smiled and done nothing." As it happens, the action taken in support of Mr. ANDREW has not ended in words. Mr. ANDREW's claim for the loss and delay he suffered in consequence of the obstruction of the Chinese officials has been duly admitted and settled, the money having been paid over to the Consul, and, furthermore, the right to trade under the transit pass system has been established and is now being availed of.

Then with regard to the statement that "Shanghai contrasts with Hongkong; while trade in the South remains stationary or retrogrades, trade in the North progresses fairly satisfactorily." Before indulging in sweeping generalisations of that kind our contemporary would do well to study the figures for a term of years, instead of jumping at conclusions on a cursory examination of the returns for a single quarter. 1888 was the first complete year in which the Kowloon and Lappa Customs stations were in operation, and we will therefore take that year as the basis for comparison. We find, then, that in 1888 the total imports of China were valued at Tls. 124,782,893, while in 1895 they were Tls. 171,696,715, showing an increase of 37 per cent. During the same period the imports entered at Canton, Kowloon, and Lappa rose from Tls. 30,896,662 to Tls. 41,142,604, being an increase of 33 per cent. A trade that increases 33 per cent. in eight years can hardly be correctly described as retrograde or stationary. It is true the increase is not so great as at Shanghai, where the imports during the same period rose from Tls. 68,433,543 to Tls. 98,639,609, or an increase of 44 per cent. Unfortunately local manufactures, a potent incentive to trade, are not springing up so rapidly in Hongkong as at Shanghai, owing partly to the difficulties arising from the scarcity of water, partly to climatic considerations, and



partly to other causes. The manufactures established at Shanghai are responsible in no small degree for the commercial progress of the port, but we cannot admit that the difference between Hongkong and Shanghai in that respect is due in any marked degree to the superior enterprise of the latter and the sluggishness of the former; it is due to natural causes over which the individual has little control. We do not say that more might not be done in Hongkong, or that the Chamber of Commerce might not by energetic action have secured years ago recognition of the right to trade under transit pass in the southern provinces, but shortcomings might also be pointed out in connection with the direction of commercial affairs at Shanghai. An examination of the figures quoted above ought to be sufficient to show our Northern contemporary that in his comparison between trade in the North and trade in the South he is wrong both in his premises and his conclusions.

#### TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND INDO-CHINA.

It is unfortunate for Japan that the commercial morality of her merchants should be held in such ill repute. Two instances of the tricks to which they resort are given in a letter recently addressed by the Chairman of the Saigon Chamber of Commerce to the Lieutenant-Governor of Indo-China. M. LE MYRE DE VILERS, the Deputy of the Colony, had addressed the Lieutenant-Governor pointing out the great discrepancy between the quantity of rice exported from Saigon to Japan, according to the French statistics, and the quantity imported by Japan, according to Japanese statistics, and requesting an explanation of the discrepancy. The letter was forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce to obtain the information asked for, and the explanation given is that at Saigon only rice shipped direct to Japan is entered as for that destination, whereas Japan imports largely from Hongkong, and, moreover, the rice entered in the statistics of Japan as Saigon rice probably includes grain from other countries. Having given this explanation in considerable detail, the Chairman of the Chamber goes on to say that it would be desirable if French merchants could establish direct relations with Japan and dispense with the Chinese middleman, but unfortunately this seems hopeless, several merchants having made the attempt and failed. One cause of this is the irregularity of the trade, the amount imported depending on the outturn of the local crop, and sometimes two or three years will pass without any exportation from Saigon for Japan. "Besides," continues M. ROLLAND, "we have good reasons for being on our guard against the well known bad faith of Japanese importers. I will cite a recent incident bearing on this point. An important Saigon firm, having made a contract for delivery of a cargo of rice in Japan, had it thrown on its hands under the pretext that the quality of the grain was not in accordance with the contract, the true reason being that on the arrival of the rice the market had fallen. In another instance the shipping company was made the victim. Acceptance of a cargo of rice from Saigon was refused at Yokohama under the pretext that fermentation had set in, and this through the fault of the ship. To put an end to the irritating discussion the Company took over the cargo on account of the concerned and sold the rice by public auction, when it realised the highest price of the

day, but that being lower than the price at the date the contract was entered into, the trick was played."

In dealing with Japanese, the letter goes on to say, it is necessary to have ample security, confirmed by a foreign bank, because in Japan the European is always held to be in the wrong and in case of a dispute as to the quality of goods there is no serious arbitrament. Precautions must therefore be taken in advance, a procedure which does not please Japanese firms and which restricts business. "The Chinese, on the other hand, are not repulsed by the Japanese proceedings, but know how to guard against them by maintaining in Japan a large number of agents who receive their vessels from Hongkong and Canton and sell the rice from hand to hand, making money or losing it according as the market rises or falls. This is the habitual Chinese system of speculation, which could not be adopted by a European house having its social and commercial honour to safeguard. But it is also this sentiment which ruins us and renders impossible all competition with the Chinese, the great monopolists of our export trade." We must confess we do not see any foundation for this last complaint. If, as M. ROLLAND says, business cannot safely be done with Japan by contract, then the obvious course is to sell for cash and take the risk of the market, which is a perfectly legitimate form of commercial speculation. The fact that the Chinese adopt that course and make handsome profits thereby redounds to their commercial ability and acumen and by no means reflects on their social or commercial honour. It would be equally open to the French merchants of Saigon to establish agencies of their own in Japan through which they could transact business, but if for want of enterprise, or want of capital, they do not do so, that is their own fault or misfortune, as the case may be, and cannot be laid to the charge of the Chinaman.

Asiatic competition, however, is held in great dread at Saigon, and some fear exists lest that of the Japanese should be added to that of the Chinese. If direct relations were established with Japan, says Mr. ROLLAND "they would certainly be conducted by the Chinese, but by the laws of trade Japan would also have direct relations with us. Would we not then see arriving in Cochin-China, if only to pay for the rice exported direct, all the articles of Japanese manufacture of which Europe justly dreads the competition: Japan beer, even wine it is said, shoes, clothing, cotton goods, etc. etc., would replace amongst us goods of French origin, and to the Chinese, to whom we are already tributary, would be added Japanese merchants of all kinds. It is well understood that all this will arrive, both men and goods, by the vessels of the Japanese navigation companies, already dangerously powerful, and of which England and Germany are particularly afraid. As France has equally strong reasons to fear this menacing competition of Asiatics, would it not be most imprudent on our part to open our arms to it and be the first to provoke it? The Chamber, like every one else, believes in liberty when it is favourable to the interests we have in charge, but we pull a wry face at it when it is in favour of others, especially when those others are foreigners." M. ROLLAND's letter affords a good explanation of how it is that the French colonies are non-progressive. The very persons who ought

to promote trade in all directions, trusting to their own ability to profit by all new developments, are amongst those who would stifle all progress and enterprise for fear that some one else might profit by it. While this spirit prevails other nations have little cause to fear French commercial rivalry in open markets, but it affords good ground for opposing French territorial acquisitions, the main object of which is to close the markets to free competition.

#### TAXATION OF MANUFACTURES IN CHINA.

As will be seen from the memorial of the Tsungli Yamen, it is proposed that the goods turned out by manufactories established in China shall pay a duty of ten per cent., which shall exempt them from all further charges for likin, etc. If the proposal be approved and honestly carried out foreigners interested in the factories so rapidly springing up at Shanghai will probably not be seriously dissatisfied. The duties to which the goods would be subjected has at various times formed the subject of newspaper discussion. It is provided in the Shimonoski treaty that "All articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China shall in respect of inland transit and internal taxes, duties, charges, and exactions of all kinds stand upon the same footing and enjoy the same privileges and exemptions as merchandise imported by Japanese subjects into China." This rendered them liable to a five per cent. duty (the equivalent of the import duty); on being conveyed into the interior they would be liable to the transit duty of two-and-a-half per cent.; it was also contended by some that they would be liable to the coast trade duty of two-and-a-half per cent. when conveyed by sea from one open port to another; and in addition to all these they would be liable to the same charges for likin as imported goods. It will be seen therefore that the single tax of ten per cent., if it really secures immunity from all further charges, is not an unfavourable arrangement for the factories. The squeeze system being so deeply seated in China, however, some misgiving may be entertained as to how far the single payment will really secure immunity from further charges; whether, in fact, such immunity will not be merely nominal. That is exactly the same point that arises in connection with the proposed revision of the import tariff, and very substantial guarantees would have to be given before foreigners would feel full confidence in the honest carrying out of the agreement.

#### PUBLIC LIGHTING AND THE WELSBACH BURNERS.

A committee which recently sat in Hongkong to consider the question of public lighting recommended the use of Welsbach burners, their reasons being as follows:—(1) The present cost of upkeep per lamp of 11 or 12 candle-power is \$2.85 per mensem, whereas that for the Welsbach of 25 to 30 candle-power will only be \$2.70, so that the initial cost of the burner will therefore be recouped in four years, after which a saving of about 5 per cent. per annum will accrue while the brilliancy of the lights will be doubled at once. (2) The Welsbach burner requiring a sealed lantern is less liable to extinction. (3) The Welsbach gives a quite sufficiently intense light for the purpose the Committee have in view and is much cheaper than the electric lamp in the initial cost



"and upkeep." At present the Singapore Municipality is negotiating a renewal of its contract for public lighting and it is rather curious to note that whereas the Hongkong Gas Company are quite willing to adopt the Welsbach burner the Singapore Company absolutely decline to have anything to do with it. There are serious differences between the Commissioners and the Company as to the terms on which the contract should be renewed, but as to the Welsbach burners the Commissioners are disposed to meet the views of the Company. What the objection to these burners is does not appear, but at a special meeting of the Commissioners held to consider the whole question Mr. SHELFORD is reported to have said:—"He thought the Board would agree with him that the Welsbach lights had not been successful, and as he understood from the letter of the Secretary in London that the great objection the Gas Company had to the continuance of the contract was to the clause by which they had to supply the Municipality at a reduced rate for any lamps which were lighted by the Welsbach burners, he thought the difficulty which at present existed between them ought to be met by consenting to forego the question of these burners altogether." In Hongkong the Welsbach burners have proved eminently successful for private lighting, and we can conceive of no reason why they should not prove equally successful for public lighting, but if the experiment at Singapore has really turned out unsatisfactorily it would be useful to know something about it. Mr. SHELFORD does not say in what respect the burners have proved unsuccessful, and the only objection mentioned by the *Straits Times*, which discusses the subject editorially, is that they burn less gas. "The Welsbach incandescent burner consumes fifty per cent. less gas than any ordinary burner, so that it is 'anathema maranatha' to the Company." But if that is the only difficulty, it would seem rather a stupid policy on the part of the Municipality to forego a superior light in favour of an inferior one simply because they cannot get it considerably cheaper than the inferior one. In Hongkong we are to have burners that will consume, it is said, twenty per cent. less gas than the present burners, but the reduction in the cost is to be only 5½ per cent. That seems to be a profitable arrangement for the Gas Company, but it is also satisfactory to the public, inasmuch as we are to get an improved light for less money, though it is not quite so satisfactory as if the reduction in cost were greater, as we think it might very well be. The Singapore Commissioners and the Singapore Gas Company may have good reasons for their policy with respect to the Welsbach burners with which we are not acquainted, but if the only objection be that, although giving a better light, they do not burn enough gas, we cannot entertain a high opinion of the intelligence of either of them, more especially the Municipal Council, for it would be in the interests of the public to pay the same price for the superior light as for the inferior one if it could not be obtained for less. Perhaps the real reason may be, however, that the Commissioners do not wish to incur the initial expense of fitting the Welsbach burners, in view of the possibility of a new system being adopted in the near future, though this does not agree with Mr. SHELFORD's explanation, which is that the light has not proved successful. The Company have offered a contract for ten years, and the Commissioners decline to bind themselves for more than two years, a fact

which, in the opinion of the *Straits Times*, is sufficient to show that a new system of lighting is in contemplation. Seeing that the Company propose that the charge per lamp per month shall be increased from three dollars and twenty cents, with a discount of three per cent., to four dollars net, that the candle-power per lamp shall be reduced from sixteen to fourteen, and that there shall be some diminution in the time during which the lamps are kept burning, it would be sound policy for the Municipality to favour the introduction of an alternative system. In Hongkong the introduction of the electric light has not only in itself been advantageous to the public, but has also by its competition brought about a considerable improvement in gas lighting. Similar competition would no doubt prove equally advantageous to Singapore.

### A CONSPIRACY IN MANILA.

SERIOUS STATE OF AFFAIRS.

HUNDREDS OF NATIVES IMPRISONED.

REPORTED ARREST OF AN AMERICAN.

29th August

There is serious trouble in Manila. Exactly what it is, by whom and for what purpose it was started, and how it will all end, are things over which there is a mysterious veil. Some gentlemen in Hongkong whom we have interviewed give entirely different versions, while the Manila press gives no version at all.

The *Zafiro* arrived yesterday, but the information obtainable is of the vaguest description, and therefore we will give the various versions without attempting to decide which side is in the right.

The trouble is a conspiracy on the part of either the priests or natives. A gentleman of Spanish blood says the natives are once again endeavouring by secret plots to throw off the Spanish yoke. The natives and mestizos, or half-castes, as has been the case ever since the Spaniards had the islands, are bitterly opposed to the present form of government. They wish for more power themselves; they are under the impression that they are being trodden under the feet of their rulers; they hate the priests and friars with a hatred that is most intense, and they are only waiting for the time to come when they can crush for ever the power of the Spanish Government. Clubs are formed and seditious pamphlets are continually being circulated amongst the natives in order to intensify the strife, and their leaders are actively engaged in bringing their conspiracy to an immediate head. And thus the priests are fearfully anxious for their own safety. Not only are the native inhabitants in an immense majority, but about ninety per cent. of the soldiers stationed in the Philippines are natives, the war ships on the station are manned principally by natives, and all of them would join the insurgents in case of an insurrection. It is estimated that there are 13,000 soldiers quartered in the Philippine Islands, and only about 1,500 of them are of true Spanish blood. The latter would fight to the death to uphold the Government, but what about the remainder? Under these circumstances the priests are agitating the Government for additional troops so as to insure the permanent stability of the present Government. Asked if it was not true that the priests were really the conspirators our informant of the above simply replied "What can the priests possibly conspire against?" He was of opinion that the conspiracy was really formed with the object of turning the attention of the Spanish Government from Cuba to the Philippine Islands, and that a serious rising would in time take place which it would be very difficult to suppress.

In support of the theory that the natives are rising, the following telegram appears in the *Manila Comercio*:

Madrid, 22nd August.

"The conspiracy, discovered and thwarted in the Philippines, has raised a unanimous

protest throughout Spain, and the punishment of the conspirators is demanded."

"His Majesty's Government declares that it has confidence in the ability of General Blanco to solve the situation."

"All parties offer their co-operation to nip the affair in the bud."

"The *Hispano-Filipino* Club has been closed."

In an article on the above the *Comercio* says that considerations of duty, patriotism, and prudence, has closed its lips for the last few days concerning the rumours that have been in circulation. It then goes on to praise the local authorities and to express devotion to the throne, but without mentioning a single fact in connection with the conspiracy, and concludes with the expression of a hope that General Blanco will see his way to allow the publication of information concerning this important affair. From this it would seem that the Censor of the Press has hitherto prohibited the publication of any news on the subject.

In a paragraph following the article it is mentioned that that morning (24th August) the Governor-General and the Archbishop of Manila had received numerous visits, when expressions of mutual consideration and respect were exchanged between the visitors and the visited.

In a previous issue, that of the 22nd, a paragraph appeared stating that a court-martial composed of general officers was to be held on the 24th to try a case of neglect of duty in presence of sedition. The result has not yet been published.

From another source—a gentleman in a high position in Manila—we learn that the natives are peaceful, but the priests are belligerent. The priests, says this gentleman, instigated a bogus conspiracy for their own ends and are fully determined to vigorously pursue their policy of antagonism towards the natives. The priests have a terrible dread of the natives, and fear a revolt in the near future. In order to guard against this and preserve their own power (which of course would be demolished in case of an outbreak) they have made up their minds to exaggerate the danger which they are now exposed to, so that the Spanish Government will be compelled in their own interests to very considerably increase the strength of the European garrison. To back up their case the priests have, without the slightest reason, it is said, thrown into the Manila prison during the past three weeks over four hundred natives. One day an English gentleman was passing the prison when he saw half a dozen youths tied together outside the gate. They were victims of the priests' wrath and when an officer was questioned about the crime these youngsters had committed he merely laughed and said "Oh nothing!" By imprisoning a few hundred natives the priests believe they will so stir up the Spanish Government that the addition of several thousand soldiers to the European garrison will be decided upon. The gentleman who gives this account is of opinion that the whole thing is a fizzle and that it will all end in smoke—or rather it will all end without smoke, as there will not be any fighting. The priests, he says, placed much importance on the discovery of four hundred stand of arms somewhere in the vicinity of Manila, but no weight need be attached to this. The natives do not know much about the use of arms, while even if they did such a small number would be practically useless in case of hard fighting. As a matter of fact the arms were intended for Mindanao. The natives do not want to fight, they do not know how to fight, but if they did they would certainly revolt against the misdoings of the priests in imprisoning innocent men.

The third version is altogether a curious one and was related by a gentleman who was formerly a resident in Manila. He received the information from a correspondent in the Philippines. In 1892 Dr. Rizal, a native, was banished by the Spanish Government to Dapitan, near Mindanao. No reason was given for his deportation, but it is most likely that it was because he published, while he was in Berlin, two books entitled "Noli me tangere" and "Filibusterismo." These books strongly condemned the Spanish Government and exposed



its corruption, and they were circulated in all parts of the world. On the 6th of this month the doctor, who is rather a young man, was quietly taken from the fortress at Dapitan and conveyed to the steamer *Espana*, on which he was taken to Manila. He was then put on board the gunboat *Otalora* and afterwards transferred to the cruiser *Gastilla*, where he was detained up to the time the *Esmeralda* left Manila. His destination was then unknown, but we learned yesterday that he had been sent to Cuba—rather an unlikely place to send him to. However, our informant of this particular version states that the priests were so incensed at the presence of Dr. Rizal that they determined to make it appear to the Spanish Government that his near presence, even on board a man-of-war, was likely to promote a renewal of discontent amongst the natives, who looked upon him as one of their first champions. The priests concocted cock-and-bull stories about the impending danger and stoutly averred that the natives were only waiting for Dr. Rizal to land, when they would rebel, overthrow the Government, and take the reins themselves. The truth was, this gentleman went on to say, the natives desired peace and a relief from the oppression of the priests, but he indignantly denied that the dissatisfied ones ever dreamt of rising in arms against the priests. The priests, and the priests alone, were to blame. He was confident there would be no fighting.

Having given these versions of the conspiracy, or the discontent, or whatever the trouble can be called, we quote the following observations which appear in Mr. Foreman's book "The Philippine Islands," which will doubtless be read with much interest:—

"Almost each generation has called forth the strong arm of the conqueror to repress native aspirations of liberty in one island or another, whilst the flame of rebellion has as often been kindled by sacerdotal despotism as by official rapacity.

"In the present century several vain attempts to subvert Spanish authority have been made; notably in 1823, when a body of disaffected native troops, headed by their captain—a creole named Andrés—conspired to seize the capital and assume Government.

"The rising was quickly subdued by the Governor-General in person, who, with Spanish troops, fortunately dispersed the rebels, their chiefs being captured and executed.

"In 1827 the standard of sedition was raised in Cebu and a few towns of that island, but these disturbances were speedily stifled by the influence of the Spanish Friars. In 1844, during a rising in Negros Island, the Spanish Governor was killed. The cause is said to have been due to the Governor having compelled the State prisoners to labour for his private account.

"In 1872 a most daring effort was made to throw off the Spanish yoke; the centre of the plot being Cavite. A number of native soldiers took part in these events; and it was convened between the conspirators in Cavite and their accomplices in Manila that the signal for the outbreak should be given by those in the capital, who were to fire off a rocket on the night that they would be ready for simultaneous action. It happened, however, that those in Cavite mistook the fireworks of a suburban feast for the signal agreed upon, and they unwittingly commenced the revolt, unsupported by their comrades across the bay.

"The disaffected soldiers took possession of the arsenal and made a firm resistance, whilst others attacked the influential Europeans. The loyal troops were called out, the arsenal was retaken, and all the rebels who escaped death were taken prisoners. The origin of this tumult was native opposition to the Spanish Friars. A certain Dr. Joseph Burgos (Philippine born) had headed a party which urged the exclusion of Friars from parochial incumbencies and called for the fulfilment of the Council of Trent decisions, which prohibited Friars from holding benefices. It appears that the Friars, nevertheless, secured these ecclesiastical preferments by virtue of Papal Bulls of Pius V. and subsequent Popes, who authorized Friars to act as parish priests, not in perpetuity, but so long as secular clergymen were in-

sufficient in number to attend to the cure of souls. The native party consequently declared that the Friars retained their incumbencies illegally and by intrusion, in view of the sufficiency of Philippine and Spanish secular priests. Had the Council of Trent enactments been carried out to the letter, undoubtedly the religious corporations in the Philippines were doomed to comparative political impotence. The Spanish religious faction, therefore, insisted upon the extreme penalty of the law being inflicted upon their opponents, and Dr. Joseph Burgos with three other native priests were executed on the Luneta, by the seashore near Manila, whilst several of the native clergy and laymen were banished.

"This insurrection coincided so opportunely with the desire to attain Father Burgos and his partisans that perhaps future historians will throw a clear light upon the real instigators of the Cavite tragedy. The rising appears to have been carefully planned, and the form of revolutionary government had been discussed, if we can give credit to the bill of indictment put forward by the public prosecutor. The clerical party can better elucidate these recent events.

"Some of the accused in this revolt, who protested their innocence, were banished to the Marianas Islands, whence a few escaped to foreign countries. Of those personally known to me, one is a successful lawyer now residing near London, and three are still in Hongkong. In 1889 I visited a penal settlement in Mindanao Island, and during my stay at the director's house I was every day served at table by the native convict who is said to have been nominated by the Cavite insurgents to the Civil Governorship of Manila.

"Great praise is due to Colonel Sabas, who, with laudable courage, crushed a conspiracy which, had it spread beyond the limits designed by its secret promoters in seclusion, would have produced a state of protracted anarchy intensified by the return, whilst it lasted, of the wayward native to their savage instincts, for they are far from being able to govern themselves on any civilized plan."

31st August.

Further particulars are to hand concerning the conspiracy in Manila. They strongly support the idea that the priests are alone responsible for the agitation, their object being, as was stated in our account on Saturday, to prejudice the natives in the eyes of the Spanish Government by spreading absurd fabrications about their increasing restlessness and thereby inducing the Government to send a few regiments of soldiers of true Spanish blood in order to safeguard the priests' authority. More natives have been thrown into prison, and it is also reported that an American named Collins has been apprehended. The *Yuensang* arrived from Manila on Saturday morning and reports that as she was about to leave on the 26th August the captain was ordered to remain in the harbour. After waiting for about five hours the Customs officials came on board and arrested two first class passengers who had taken tickets for Hongkong. They were natives of Manila and the reason given for their arrest was that they had taken an active part in stirring up strife. The vessel was then allowed to proceed on her voyage. It is further reported that the President, Treasurer, and Secretary of an association alleged to have been concerned in the conspiracy have been arrested. There is also a story that some of the leaders are in Hongkong and Japan and that arms have been sent from Japan to Manila, but of course it is difficult to say whether any reliance can be placed in these reports.

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Daily Press* from Manila:—

Sir,—There being no free press in this capital of the unfortunate Philippines Archipelago through which an energetic protest might be made against the arbitrary deportation of honorable men which this despotic Government is now carrying out with impunity, I address myself to you, most earnestly requesting you to translate into English and insert in your columns this solemn protest, which, in the name of my country, I make against such outrageous oppression. No doubt you have seen the *Comercio* of the 24th August, in which the following telegram appears:—

"Madrid, 22nd August."

"The conspiracy, discovered and thwarted, in the Philippines, has raised a unanimous protest throughout Spain, and the punishment of the conspirators is demanded.

"His Majesty's Government declares that it has confidence in the ability of General Blanco to solve the situation.

"All parties offer their co-operation to nip the affair in the bud."

From this telegram it logically follows that the information supplied by General Blanco has led the Spanish Government to believe that in these islands there exists a separatist conspiracy. In this General Blanco has iniquitously imposed on the good faith of His Majesty's Government and the public of Spain.

To what is General Blanco indebted for his recent promotion? To the loyalty and ready obedience of the Philippine soldiers in the island of Mindanao, who, at their officers' word of command, were ready to sacrifice their lives without protest. The honour conferred upon him his conscience should tell him he owes to them.

Can General Blanco say that anywhere in the Philippines there exists a true separatist conspiracy which he has discovered and thwarted? The country to whom he owes his promotion asks only for his good will, that he will not sacrifice its inhabitants to his crafty ambition, that he will not drag them from their homes by arbitrary deportations, the consequences of which are most melancholy. The loyalty of the natives towards the mother country has been, is, and always will be indissoluble.

If there exists any conspiracy in the Philippines, let the Government of His Majesty and all the nations of Europe know that it is contrived and elaborated in the Palace of General Blanco himself, in that of the Archbishop, Fray Nozalea, and in the convents of the Friars, that it is not directed to separation, but, as regards the first named, to secure praise in his military career and other peculiar advantages of a pecuniary nature; and, as regards the latter, that they may be constituted the priestly rulers of the Philippines, that they may exhibit their satanic power in the face of this unhappy country and make the Government believe that they are the true and indispensable guardians of the national integrity. This policy has been steadily and profitably followed in these islands, which they have held and exploited for more than three centuries, now by terror, now by measures of deceit, while they try to keep the natives in ignorance that the Friars have succeeded in building up a colossal fortune and a sovereign power. The Philippines who oppose their dark doings or do not submit to their robbery and exploitation are held to be criminals, are persecuted without mercy, are banished to Jolo, the Marianas, Balabac, Iligan, etc., or executed on the beach at Bagangbayan, because the Friars, haughty, vengeful, cruel, theatrical, etc., intrigue to make it appear that there is a conspiracy amongst the natives, the conspiracy being promoted and subventioned by the Friars themselves, who afterwards denounce to the authorities such and such Philippines (enemies of the ambitious Friars) as the authors. This is the explanation of the conspiracies or revolts which, it is said, there have been and are in this unfortunate country. They are all plots of the Friars for their own peculiar ends, provoked exclusively by them, but to the prejudice of these unhappy islands and of the Metropolis.

Will these Friars tell us whence came the kegs of powder and firearms concealed in the ground in the village of Pandacan, near this city? Will they tell us whence came those subversive and revolutionary proclamations, edited by themselves and printed in the Santo Asilo de Huérfanos, which is under the direction of the Augustines—proclamations discovered during the government of General Despujols? Criminal prosecutions were instituted in connection with this affair in the courts of Binondo and Intramuros, in which the Friars were shown to be gravely compromised. But what was the result? Ah! The Friars got many thousands of dollars, at the cost of the country; they acquired also on the one hand an accession to their power and on the other hand much land, also at the cost of the country. Was anything done against them? Absolutely nothing. They always enjoy immunity, even for their most outrageous offences.



Naturally the country is weary of their iniquities. True it is that they are not regarded with that respect that they were for so many years (three centuries), because in them the country sees only its cruel rod. And as the Friars feel themselves slowly slipping from their ancient throne and losing the mine they have hitherto exploited, they fume and rage, and, using their treasure and their power, they intrigue by all means to bring about a conspiracy or revolt, and the Government supports them in their infamous plans. Hence the deportation and execution of sons of the country, honest, industrious, estimable men, attached to the mother country and its institutions, but opposed to the pernicious principles of the Friars, under which the country can make no progress.

Examine with impartiality the abortive risings which have hitherto taken place in these islands, and there will be plainly seen the traitorous and vile hand of the Friars, who have promoted them for their own ends.

We protest, then, in the name of the Philippines, against the arbitrary deportations which General Blanco continues to decree. The Philippines declare their loyal attachment to the mother country and urgently request His Majesty's Government that it will disapprove of the inquisitorial actions of General Blanco, that the law with regard to deportations may be complied with, and that the accused may be accorded the right of making a full and free defence, so that their innocence or guilt may be tried, in the interests of the public welfare, law, and justice.

I repeat my request that you will have the goodness to insert in your independent paper this letter, intended as a solemn and energetic protest against the measures arbitrarily adopted by General Blanco against sons of the country whose only offence is that they are well known and enjoy a comfortable social position, but who are the object of the wrath of the Philippine Friars.

#### THE "REDPOLE" DESPATCHED.

1st September.

The conspiracy in Manila has culminated in a rebellion, and it has been deemed advisable to send the British gunboat *Redpole* in order to protect our interests there in case assistance is necessary. The first news of the outbreak reached Hongkong on Monday night, when Commodore Boyes received a telegram from the British Consul in Manila stating that a serious rebellion had broken out and that there had been a conflict between the rebel forces and Government troops just outside Manila. The Commodore at once concluded that affairs had reached such a climax that it was necessary to send a gunboat to Manila to safeguard British interests, and orders were immediately given for the *Redpole* to proceed without delay. She got up steam and left here at eleven o'clock this morning, and she is due in Manila on Thursday night. The information conveyed in this telegram was certainly of a very serious nature, but this morning another telegram was received which somewhat allayed the alarm occasioned by the British Consul's wire. This second telegram was from the manager of the Manila branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and was as follows—"Small rebellion has broken out in Manila. In our opinion is not serious. There is no cause for anxiety." The news of the receipt of this telegram was soon spread about the colony and those who have interest in the Philippine Islands were naturally pleased with its tone. We think more reliance can be placed on the Bank telegram, because it was despatched twelve hours after the British Consul's telegram, which was probably sent during the panic which would be created by the receipt of the first news.

#### AFFAIRS IN FORMOSA.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

ANPING, 19th August.

The distress among the refugees in Mid-Formosa is said to be acute and many of the people in the hill country are dying from want of exposure. It is impossible for foreigners to reach them at present, but it is hoped that the authorities will soon be in a position to

grant passports. At present applications are refused on the plea that the country is too disturbed.

It is reported that the Japanese are exerting all their power to induce the refugees to return to the Hoonim and Chip-chip districts, offering compensation to those who suffered loss during the recent troubles. The people, however, still hesitate to move down, and it is a question if they will do so except under the protection, and guarantee, of foreigners.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Tainanfoo, 16th August.

More than a month has elapsed since the accounts of the Japanese atrocities in this island were made public by your paper and your contemporaries, and though all papers have been eagerly read since, no defence whatever, so far, has been offered by the Japanese. This would naturally lead the public to think that the Japanese admit the atrocities, or, if not admit, at least they find it difficult to deny them and the difficulty has been so great that they have not attempted it. I notice one of your contemporaries, in a leader, stated they were disinclined to believe such misdeeds of the idol they worship and, moreover, that the accounts given by the various independent correspondents were one and all exaggerated as regards Japanese crimes and kept back much that should have appeared as regards provocation from the poor innocent murdered. Everyone has, of course, a right to believe or disbelieve a story just as it may please them, but I may say that there is not a single resident here, of whatever calling, having any chance of finding out the truth, who believes the Japanese were provoked. If it were mere rumour it would be a different thing, but it is not. There are European eye-witnesses as well as Chinese, and as, for once, accounts from beginning to end confirm each other, who can help believing all that is said of the Japanese? Up to the present the only explanation from the Japanese has been offered by that "high official" Mr. Kimura, and what is it? Did he try to contradict the report of their atrocities? Nothing of the sort. He merely gave a statement about the suppressing of certain robberies, in the attempt to do which the Japanese braves were three times defeated; and, it seems, for no reason whatever, as none is given, when these defeated soldiers returned they were met (of course quite unprovoked) by 300 insurgents (natives). How came there to be native insurgents at all Mr. Kimura did not enlighten us. The fact seems to remain that they existed, and apparently for no reason did they take up arms.

I forget. There was a lame excuse that Hoonim was the hereditary resort of robbers and thieves. This nobody denies, but one and all who have had any chance of knowing the truth do say that in order to suppress these robbers, who have only one resort—Twa-pai-tai—in the attempt to take which, as stated, the Japanese were thrice worsted, there is no reason why over seventy villages round about the hill, as well as at considerable distances from it, should have been destroyed by fire, and their inhabitants, when they could be caught, men, women, and children, put to the sword.

The truth is this, though we could hardly bring ourselves to believe it were it not for the overwhelming facts to hand, that when the Japanese who were sent to catch these robbers got worsted, they, like all Oriental savages, thirsted for revenge on somebody, and not being able at the time to inflict such on their victors they turned on the innocent, helpless, and defenceless villagers (who feared the robbers as much as anyone else) and massacred them. Excited by this first drawing of blood, like wild beasts which having once tasted human blood thirst for more, and entirely led away by it, they set to work and created the carnage reported. The peaceful villagers at first bore the matter, but when they perceived there was evidently no limit to this wholesale butchery they, having no alternative and thus deliberately goaded to it, rose in arms, not in the hope of reconquering Formosa or any such wild goose chase, of the hopelessness of which they were quite aware, but simply to revenge their murdered who were crying to them from the earth. This, so far as we know, is the beginning of the whole affair.

#### NORTH FORMOSA.

Tainan, 20th August.

I have recently returned from a ten days' trip in North Formosa, and, as the steamer is leaving to-day, I can only give a rough sketch of my wanderings, which were in every direction, by rail, chair, and shank's mare, also by river, valley, roads, and mountain paths. Desolated farm-houses and neglected fields, vacant and ruined houses on the outskirts of towns and villages (in many places partly destroyed by fire), yamens or temples, where doubtless the inhabitants had massed, bearing the marks of rifle and machine-gun bullets on the walls, and last but not least, the presence of Japanese troops, swaggering in all the insolence of arrogance, are the only signs that ruthless war has been there. The weather and busy builders had wiped out many other traces. In some places so little indication was shown of the track of battle that it was hard to believe what the remaining inhabitants of a village told me, that more than a hundred of their fellow villagers and residents of outlying hamlets had been shot down at the first advent of the Japanese troops, who, they say, marched in unresisted, and that the slaughter, which included all sexes and ages, was quite unnecessary. This, of course, is the Chinese version given  *viva voce*  in their own tongue. Only they and the Japanese invaders were present; the latter do not enter into particulars, and there are but few foreigners that can speak to the former. A great deal of work, banking and tunnelling, is going on upon the road to Kelung. It is said that the Japanese intend straightening the railroad and improving it. Judging from the motion of the cars, the present road is very badly battered, and the rails very unevenly laid, neither straight nor parallel to each other. Kelung itself is almost a Japanese town, with its usual concomitants of houses of entertainment for man and beast. The coal trade of the place is a thing of the past; only one Japanese transport at anchor, and no indication of business passing, except in the presence of a few Chinese junks in the harbour and "muck and truck" shops in the streets, chiefly Japanese. The church even was not safe from their sacrilegious hands; it was forcibly occupied by a number of craftsmen and retail dealers; and but for the advent of a worthy traveller, a Hungarian Baron, they would be there now. He, however, was so shocked at the desecration of the building that he straightway made his way back to Kobe and reported the matter to the owner of the chapel, and he in turn asked for the British Consul's interference. The latter, in company with the Baron, at once went back to Kelung, and requested the so-called prefect to have the building at once cleared of its unwelcome intruders. He of course at first used the common Oriental excuse that he could not do it without instructions from the seat of Government; doubtless he spoke the truth, which is so convenient at times, but a threat that the matter would be promptly reported to Tokyo quickly brought him the necessary authority to act justly towards the owners of the building. If it takes such measures to get justice for a Westerner, as I see our little friends now call us, what must be the experience of the poor native?

Kelung is a Treaty Port, and the Rev. Geo. L. Mackay thought that he could justly call for the interference of his Consul to protect him, but the many churches throughout the country, if not occupied by shoemakers and hucksters, are used as residences or offices of the higher officials, j.p.s. or sergeants in command of the guards stationed there.

In one particular place, as if wishing to add insult to injury, an old cannon and several rusty jingals captured from the enemy were stored in front of the church—a nice lesson this for the few converts in the town. This I saw with my own eyes and can vouch for, as also for the church being occupied by the Japanese. Apropos of the desecration of the Kelung church, the worthy Baron got quite scriptural in his wrath and said they have made the house of God into a den of thieves, and would that he had a scourge of cords to drive them forth. That more will be heard of this episode, I feel sure, because the Baron is said to have telegraphed the incident widely abroad.—*Mercury* correspondent.



## SUPREME COURT.

26th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING  
PUISNE JUDGE).TAK SIN TONG v. CHEUNG KAM TIN  
AND ANOTHER.

Plaintiff, a boy employed at the Hongkong Club, claimed from the defendants the sum of \$550, money lent, and \$74.25 interest thereon at the rate of 1½ per cent. per month.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Holmes) represented the plaintiff, and Mr. Master appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Francis said that the first defendant was compradore to Messrs. Meyer & Co., and the second defendant was his wife. The action was really against the husband. The husband and wife were living apart. His Lordship would find that the plaintiff was the same person who was plaintiff in a suit towards the end of last year for the recovery of \$200. That suit was very fully argued by counsel himself on the one side and by Mr. Robinson for the defendant, and a full judgment was given in the suit on all points that could possibly be raised in an action of that description, and the fact of the suit having been argued out and the judgment given would facilitate his Lordship very considerably in the present case. Counsel proposed to put in the judgment, as it was decisive on certain points which would otherwise arise in this case. The first point was as to the fact that the two defendants were married folks and were living apart through the husband's fault; secondly, as to defendant's means; thirdly, as to the sufficiency of the allowance given to the wife. The question in this case was not whether the transaction was a *bona fide* one, but whether the money lent was wholly or in part for necessary purposes in connection with the wife's own maintenance.

The wife of the first defendant was then called. She said she borrowed \$550 from the plaintiff at the rate of 1½ per cent. per month interest. After getting the money she paid \$330 principal and \$30 interest to another party from whom she had borrowed. The remaining \$220 was for her own maintenance and family expenses. During the last twelve months her husband had allowed her only \$40 a month, and during that time her health had been bad and she had spent \$130 to \$140 for doctors and medicines. She separated from her husband in 1892. During the past two years she had spent from \$800 to \$1,000 for interest on borrowed money, lawyers' expenses, &c. That money was over and above what she had got back from her husband.

In answer to Mr. Master witness said her monthly expenses were at the most \$180 and at the least \$150. During the past six months she had spent about \$800 or \$900. That was the least she could live on; she lived according to her husband's means. She did not know what his total income was, but he received rentals of his house property amounting to \$750 or \$760 a month, \$2,700 to \$2,800 from paddy fields, and about \$400 a year from ancestral property.

Tak Sin Tong, the plaintiff, said his real name was Chin Chau Kwong. He had been employed as boy at the Hongkong Club for the past twenty months. The money which he lent to the second defendant was left by his father and sent by his mother. His mother was the administratrix, the money belonging to her and three sons in proportion.

In answer to Mr. Master witness said he had written instructions from his mother to bring these proceedings. He did not know whether he could find the letter in the Hongkong Club.

Mr. Master took the objection that the witness could not be said to be the plaintiff; therefore he must be non-suited. The money belonged to the mother and sons, and according to the Code a plaintiff was bound to bring an action in his own name and not otherwise and either himself or by his attorney, procurator, or agent authorised in writing. The plaintiff's real name was Chin Chau Kwong, and consequently there was nothing to prevent the mother

bringing another action for the recovery of the money. The present plaintiff was certainly not entitled to give a valid receipt, and the action could therefore not go on. There was nothing to prevent the real owner of the money taking proceedings to recover the amount.

Mr. Francis said it was quite clear on the evidence as it stood that the money belonged, not to the mother specially, but to the family, and the writ was issued in the name of the family, Tak Sin Tong, and so far as the name was concerned the writ was correct. The family were practically partners and he submitted they were entitled to sue in the name of Tak Sin Tong. He also submitted that every individual member of that family was, according to Chinese custom, entitled to use the name for the purpose of family business. The plaintiff was just as distinctly the agent of the mother and family as a manager of a hong in Hongkong was the agent of the hong and was entitled to take proceedings to recover property lent by him. At no previous time had such a thing been required as the filing of the name of procurator, or agent, or anything of that sort, and the section referred to by Mr. Master (section 7 of Ordinance 13 of 1873) did not apply to the present case at all, but was simply to prevent persons coming into the Court in the character of solicitors or agents while they had an interest in the business themselves. Although such an application as this must have been possible and reasonable in one half of the suits brought into Court, it had not been the practice to demand anything of the sort asked for by defendants' solicitor. Counsel therefore asked his Lordship to dismiss the objection.

Mr. Master, in reply, pointed out that in the writ of summons Tak Sin Tong was given as the plaintiff, and throughout the writ the word "plaintiff" and not "plaintiffs" appeared. The pleading was that Tak Sin Tong was an individual, and now it transpired that he was composed of several persons. If a hong had taken the proceedings the word "plaintiffs" would have been written, whereas in this case the singular was used throughout. Moreover, there was nothing to show how the mother and sons were interested, and it had not even been shown that the plaintiff had any interest in the money at present. This was not a genuine case of partners suing, and he submitted that the plaintiff should be non-suited.

His Lordship reserved his decision on the point and further evidence was taken, the plaintiff, in cross-examination, stating that his wages were \$8 a month. He had no other income.

After the usual interval for luncheon his Lordship said—During the adjournment I considered the point raised by Mr. Master. According to section 7 of Ordinance 13 of 1873 "any person taking proceedings as plaintiff must do so in his own name and not otherwise, and either by himself or by his attorney, procurator, or agent," &c. The plaintiff in this case is stated to be Tak Sin Tong. Now is that the name of the plaintiff? It appears to me that it is the name of a family consisting of several persons—the mother and three sons. The only exception to this rule about proceedings in Court being taken by a person in his own name occurs where the plaintiffs are partners and is provided for by Ordinance 5 of 1893. "Any two or more persons claiming or being liable as co-partners and carrying on business within the jurisdiction may sue or be sued in the names of the respective firms." If we turn to section 14 of Ordinance 13 of 1873, which refers to proceedings by or against partnership firms, we shall find that before Ordinance 5 of 1893 was passed proceedings by or on behalf of or against a partnership, solely or jointly, had to be taken in the several names of the partners as individuals and not in the name of the firm or otherwise. It appears, therefore, that the only exception which allows a person not to proceed in his own name is in the case of partners. The question arises, is Tak Sin Tong a partnership within the meaning of Ordinance 5 of 1893? Does the relationship existing between them constitute them partners. Do they carry on business in common with the object of making a profit? I must hold that it is not, so far as appears in the case before me, a partnership, and I feel bound to uphold the objection of Mr. Master.

Mr. Francis—Then your Lordship non-suits the plaintiff?

His Lordship—Yes.

Mr. Master—With costs, my Lord?

His Lordship—Yes.

31st August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING  
PUISNE JUDGE) AND A COMMON JURY.CHEUNG NANG KAI AND LU A. SEE v.  
CHEUNG FAT.

The plaintiffs sought to recover \$1,000 damages for a libel alleged to have been published by the defendant.

Mr. Master appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Mounsey), represented the defendant.

The jurymen were Messrs. W. B. Walker, S. J. Moses, and C. S. Gubbay.

Mr. Master fully explained the facts of the case. The plaintiff, Cheung Nang Kai, is a fish dryer and a dealer in salt fish, and is the registered owner of a licensed junk lying near Aberdeen. The plaintiff, Lu A See, is his wife and resided with him on board the junk. The defendant is a fish dryer and a dealer in salt fish and also the owner of a licensed junk. Defendant inserted in the *Chinese Mail* and also in leaflets distributed in the village of Aberdeen words which conveyed to those by whom they were read that Cheung Kwong Loong, the son of the defendant, had married A Soo, the daughter of the plaintiffs, in 1894, and that A Soo had on her marriage entered her husband's family and remained there since, and that she had attained the age of 20 years during the present Chinese year. That the said A Soo had become disrespectful and unfilial to her husband's parents and disregarded her husband, and that her manner and bearing were improper (immodest), and that she was becoming more proud and saucy daily. That all such was owing to the plaintiffs having allowed her to have her own disorderly way from her youth and failed to teach her any household regulations. Further, that on the 19th and 20th May, this year, A Soo had left the defendants' household and had gone whither the defendant knew not, taking with her all her dowry and furniture, and that the plaintiffs had connived at and allowed the removal of the things and had in no way endeavoured to prevent such removal. That such conduct on the part of A Soo was due to the plaintiffs having given their support and encouraged her. The following words are part of those complained of:—"The said woman [A Soo] is 20 years old this year. She being proud of her delicate and handsome manner and tender age, becomes disrespectful and unfilial. This is owing to Cheung Nang Kai and his wife (her parents) having allowed her to have her own (disorderly) way from her tender age and failed to teach her any household regulations. They always let their daughter, the said A Soo, make a great noise in the house and disobey the orders of her husband's parents. She disregards her husband. Moreover, her manner and bearing are improper. She always gives trouble and often creates misunderstandings. The more I reprove her the more she shows her anger. She is becoming more proud and more saucy day after day." In consequence of the publication of these words the plaintiffs were injured in their credit and reputation. The defendant admitted the publication in the *Chinese Mail*, but denied that the words were published falsely and maliciously. He also denied that the word "improper" meant "immoral." The statements were true in substance and in fact and the plaintiffs had not been injured or impeded in the conduct of their business by reason of such publication. The defendant also added that he published the words on a privileged occasion and for the protection of himself and of his son and of his family from all claims and demands that might be brought against them by reason of the abandonment by A Soo of her husband and of her home, and for the purpose of giving notice to all whom it might concern that he would not be responsible for any debts incurred by or credit given to A



Soo or to her parents, the plaintiffs, on her account.

Evidence was then called. Dr. Eitel explained the meaning of certain Chinese words and was closely cross-examined by Mr. Francis. At the conclusion Dr. Eitel said the learned Counsel (Mr. Francis) had treated him as if he was a party to the suit. When he was approached to give evidence he said he would rather not; at any rate he refused to accept any remuneration as he did not wish to be a party to either side. He had not been influenced by anybody; he had simply made his statement.

Mr. Francis—No one would suppose, Dr. Eitel, that you had been influenced.

Dr. Eitel—I got the impression by the way you sharply hustled me.

His Lordship—We quite understand your position, Dr. Eitel.

The further hearing of the case was adjourned until to-morrow.

#### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held Thursday afternoon at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present—Dr. Ayres (Colonial Surgeon), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. H. B. Lethbridge (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary.)

##### MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

##### THE VICE-PRESIDENCY.

A letter from the Colonial Secretary was laid on the table stating that the Colonial Surgeon had been appointed Vice-President of the Board.

##### A PLAGUE REPORT.

The SECRETARY laid on the table a report by the Medical Officer of Health of Macao having reference to the outbreak of bubonic plague in that colony in 1895.

It was resolved to thank the Colonial Secretary for sending the report.

##### CHOLERA AT SINGAPORE.

The Colonial Secretary at Singapore wrote stating that as the outbreak of cholera in Penang had practically ceased, no further reports would be sent regarding that Settlement. A slight outbreak having occurred in Singapore, he enclosed for the information of the Board a return showing the number of cases that had occurred since the 8th August and would continue to do so until the abatement of the disease. These statistics showed that 19 cases, 16 of which had proved fatal, had occurred between the 8th and 15th inst.

##### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics showed a death rate of 18.6 per 1,000 for the week ended 22nd August and 17.8 for the previous week.

##### ADJOURNMENT.

The Board then adjourned until Thursday week.

#### DETERMINED MURDER AT HONGHAM.

Between two and three o'clock on the morning of the 27th August a shocking murder was committed in a fishing boat at Hongham, the victim being an old woman, while a man who was in the same boat received such injuries that he is not expected to live. The crime was of a most determined character and was committed by five men, all of whom are said to be brothers. They armed themselves with swords and proceeded with their fishing junk to a part of the beach where the boat containing the man and woman was stationed. Creeping stealthily into the boat the men attacked the two occupants in such a fierce fashion that the woman died almost immediately and the man was hacked in a most terrible manner about the head. The murderers then escaped. The motive for this ghastly deed is said to be revenge; it was certainly not robbery, as not a single thing was stolen from the boat. In support of the theory of revenge it is stated that about a month ago the parties quarrelled and the present crime is the outcome of that quarrel. The woman, who was 66 years of age, earned her livelihood principally as a "joss woman," and it is most likely that her prophecies begat

so much hatred on the part of the murderers that they resolved to kill her as a witch. We do not know what relation the injured man, whose age is 34, bore to the old woman, but he was in the quarrel of a month ago, so perhaps he participated in the joss jugglery. Yesterday morning his depositions were taken at the Government Civil Hospital, where he was removed to, and he gave an account of the tragedy. Immediately the police heard of the crime the detective staff, under Inspector Stanton, and a number of policeman under Inspector Butlin, turned out and commenced a search for the murderers, while the Chinese authorities on the mainland have also been informed of the affair. There is reason to believe that the assailants will be shortly arrested. Their names are known to the police, and the various districts are being so thoroughly patrolled by special men that their capture is looked upon as pretty certain. Up to the present the police had not obtained any clue to their whereabouts.

##### AN EXTRAORDINARY PLOT.

The inquiries which have been made respecting the shocking murder of an old woman at Hongham early on Thursday morning have led to the discovery of a startling plot which was made about four months ago to kidnap and murder the man who now lies in the Government Civil Hospital suffering from numerous sword wounds about various parts of the body. The facts as related to us not only disclose a highly sensational story, but show how very ready certain classes of the Chinese are to greedily swallow and believe the most ridiculous yarns concerning their prospects in this life and the final arrangements made for their reception in ultramundane regions. Both the injured man and the murdered woman were wonder workers; their necromantic powers were supposed to be of an exceptionally high order, particularly in the case of the man, who appears to have been a specially favoured individual. He, it was thought, inherited his extraordinary powers from his father, who was one of the leading lights in this mysterious profession, and when the old man died, as he truly prophesied he would one day, the son, seeing a good opening for himself, stepped into his father's shoes and afterwards entered into a sort of partnership with the old woman, as a consequence, perhaps, of his increasing business, which demanded a new stock of original ideas. The shore people are not yet far enough advanced in civilization to be able to intelligently appreciate the delicate subtleties embodied in the glorious profession of a necromancer and so they did not bestow a very extensive patronage upon this pair of worthies, but the fishing people, knowing more of the ways of this world than their less fortunate brethren, and wishing to know more of the next world, had the good taste to consult Monsieur and Madame. Among the numerous customers were the five fishermen who are wanted by the Police. At one time they had an extensive fleet of boats, but misfortune overtook them and they were forced to sell their craft and buy less costly vessels. Again the fates dealt them a severe blow and again they reduced the size of their boats. Ruin was surely pursuing them, and with this thought came a gleam of light which explained the cause of their adversity. They had not consulted the joss; no wonder the fish refused to leap into their nets. The Western Inuits, on catching the first whale of the season, worship the animal, overwhelm it with thanks for its kind consideration, and then cut it open and devour the whole of the flesh. That ceremony finds such favour with the other whales that they fight each other in their eagerness to be caught. The poor Chinese fishermen, however, know nothing about this happy dodge, and they believe their chance of success in their calling lies only in their devoted attachment to No. 1 joss. Thus it happened that the five simple brothers decided some months ago to consult the old woman and the young man, who of course were paid some trifling recompense for their trouble and for more speedily propitiating the various spirits in the far-away world. It is said that the man was the more favoured of the two. He seemed to possess greater power and brought good luck to the fishermen. In time, however,

the tables were turned, the fishermen experienced hard times, and they began to think the man, whose might was never questioned, was conspiring with the spirits to wreck their future and thus annihilate all the fond hopes they had cherished of a prosperous fishing business. There was only one thing to be done. While the man lived he was a powerful enemy to them; therefore he had to be killed, and not only killed but cut up into small slices, so that not a single part of his body could retain any of its mystic potency. About three months ago this diabolical plot was solemnly formed by the five men. They persuaded the man to go out to sea with them in a boat. They started from Shangkwan, and after going a few miles the details of the proposed murder were given to the man and preparations were made for carrying out their design. He fell on his knees, implored them to let him live, and cried piteously. The men were deaf to his cries and exhortations, and seeing that he had no chance of escape by this means it suddenly occurred to him to take advantage of their weak spot and again demonstrate his powers to them. "Let me live," he said, "and to-morrow you will catch 600 piculs of fish. Kill me, and you will never catch any." This was a brilliant idea for a man in such a position as he was and the remark worked such an influence on the men that they resolved to give him another chance. They then brought him safely back to Hongkong. Strange to relate, on the following day the five men caught 400 piculs of fish—indisputable proof of the man's sincerity and the extraordinary power he had over the spirits. This stroke of fortune completely re-established him in the good graces of the fishermen and even increased their belief in his ability to control their fortunes. The parties remained on terms of intimate friendship until about a month ago when something again went wrong which threw the wonder working quite out of gear and caused a renewal of the hatred. The feeling against the man increased and became much more bitter than before, while the woman also shared the enmity displayed towards her partner. The men resolved to put them both to death. The murder was planned and the execution of the deed was only a question of time. We know how it all ended. In the dead of night the five fishermen pounced upon their two victims and hacked them with swords. The woman died in a very short time and the man still lives. There were deep cuts in several parts of their bodies, a fact which goes to show that the murderers intended, as in the first plot, to cut them to pieces. It is a terrible story altogether. Would that good came of it in dispelling the wretched superstitions many of the Chinese so tenaciously cling to.

#### ORGAN RECITAL AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL.

On Thursday evening an organ recital was given at the Roman Catholic Cathedral to celebrate the opening of the new organ. The cathedral was crowded and the general opinion was that the recital was a great success. The organ is a low priced single manual and was made in Italy. It has, considering the comparatively small sum of money spent upon it, an exceedingly good tone, and a bargain was certainly struck when the purchase was made. The instrument was sent to the colony over two years ago and with it came complete plans of each stage of organ building, which were sent to Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. Mr. Duncan was deputed to erect the organ, but unfortunately he was unable to finish the work because many of the pipes were broken and twisted in transport. It was therefore decided to send to Italy for a special man, and Mr. Vittorio Facchetti, of Brescia, came here to complete the erection of the instrument. He had many difficulties to overcome in the work, and it says much for his ability that the organ now possesses such a good tone, in fact, his work has been so much admired that he was appointed to repair the organ at the Union Church.

The recital opened with a grand march offertory in F, which was composed by Mr. Orange, and arranged for the organ by Mr. Sangster, the late organist at St. John's.



Cathedral. The piece was played by Mr. G. Grimble, who is to be congratulated upon his excellent performance, more especially as the music was arranged for an organ with two manuals. Every one praised Mr. Cattaneo's playing; indeed he really astonished most of his friends, who were not aware that he was such an accomplished organist. The remark concerning Mr. Grimble's difficulty in playing on a single manual applies of course to Mr. Cattaneo as well. It was indeed a first class performance that Mr. Cattaneo gave, particularly in the Monastic Coro, in which the flute step was splendid. Mr. O. Baptista, the organist at the cathedral, also presided at the instrument and gave satisfaction. The vocal selections were, for the most part, well rendered. Miss Carvalho sang exquisitely and Mr. C. H. Grace was also in good voice, but the accompaniment was too soft. Mr. Sliman was evidently suffering from a cold and should not have sung. Mrs. Hagen gave Mascagni's "Ave Maria" in excellent style, and the duet singing of Messrs. Van Nierop and Kraal was much enjoyed. A number of amateurs gave two selections on mandolines and guitars. They played well, but it would have been better if chorus singing had been substituted. It should be added that the cathedral possesses exceptionally good acoustic properties, perhaps the best in the colony, and the organ well filled the building, while the vocalists could be heard very distinctly. We must congratulate our Roman Catholic friends on the possession of such a beautifully toned instrument. We can say only one thing against it, and that is it is a pity it does not possess fewer stops and a double manual. The following was the programme:—

Grand March Offertoire in F.—For Organ (composed for the occasion), by Mr. J. Orange.

Mr. G. Grimble.

Inflammatus—For Soprano, from Rossini's "Stabat Mater."

Miss Carvalho.

Barcarolle—For Orchestra of Mandolines and Guitars. Lady and Gentlemen Amateurs.

Monastic Coro; in distance, and duet for Flute and Clarinet, for Organ, by Maestro A. Cattaneo.

Maestro A. Cattaneo.

Salve Maria—For Baritone, by Mercadante.

Mr. C. H. Grace.

Organ Solo—

(a) Pastorale—J. S. Bach.

(b) Nun's Prayer—Oberthur O. Baptista.

Mr. O. Baptista.

Organ Solo ..... "Offertoire" from the "Messe de Mariage" } Th. Dubois.

Mr. G. Grimble.

Cnjus Animum—For Tenor—from Rosini's "Stabat Mater."

Mr. D. K. Sliman.

Serenade—For Orchestra of Mandolines and Guitars, by Acton.

Lady and Gentlemen Amateurs.

Ave Maria—For Soprano, by Mascagni.

Mrs. Hagen.

(a) Qui Tollis et Qui Sedes, for Bass } From No.

(b) Laudamus te, for Tenor..... } 3 Mass, A.

(c) Christe—Duet for Tenor and Bass } Cattaneo.

Messrs. Van Nierop and Kraal.

Solo for Tromba and Marcia finale for Organ, by

Maestro Cattaneo.

Maestro A. Cattaneo.

Accompanist—Maestro A. Cattaneo.

### SERIOUS AFFRAY IN HONGKONG WATERS.

On the 27th August information was given to the Hongkong Police of a most serious attack on ten Hongkong fishermen in Tai-wan-ho Bay, which is between Victoria and Aberdeen. The men were fishing from a couple of boats on Wednesday morning when seven unlicensed boats, crowded with men, went up to them and endeavoured to fish in Hongkong waters. This illegal act was promptly resented by the licensed fishermen, whereupon the unlicensed men, who came from the mainland, got alongside the two boats and unmercifully assaulted the occupants with bamboos. The Hongkong men tried hard to beat their assailants off, but the fight lasted half an hour, during which time most of the ten men were more or less injured. The attacking party then hurried away to the mainland and have not been heard of since. Of the Hongkong

fishermen four were so seriously injured that they had to be sent to the Government Civil Hospital, where they are detained. The police are inquiring into the outrage.

### THE WHASANG MEMORIAL FUND.

The following has been forwarded to us for publication by the Right Rev. Bishop Burdon:—  
Foochow, 7th August, 1896.

The Right Rev. Bishop Burdon, Hongkong.

Dear Sir,—I am now able to inform you that the monument, which has been placed over the graves of the victims of the Whasang massacre, was unveiled by the British Consul on Saturday last, the 1st instant, a large number of the missionary and mercantile community being present.

With this I beg to hand you a statement of account, which you will observe shows a credit balance of \$456.85. In accordance with the original plan I have offered to hand over this sum to the English Mission, but Archdeacon Wolfe and other members of the Mission have expressed a wish that it should be devoted to the purpose of placing a Memorial Window in the British Episcopal Church of this place. Therefore unless I find within one month from the date of this letter that the new proposal is not generally approved of I shall adopt it.

The balance in hand will probably be insufficient to pay the cost of a suitable stained glass window, but I have the assurance of a few members of this community that any debit balance will be willingly made good.

By this chance I am sending you a photograph of the scene at the graves on Saturday last and shall be much obliged if you will kindly let subscribers see it with this letter.

With renewed thanks for your trouble.—

Believe me, sincerely yours,

H. S. BRAND,  
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer,  
Whasang Memorial Fund.

Mr. Brand sent with the letter two photographs, one showing the monument with those present at the ceremony of the unveiling grouped at the sides, and the other showing the monument alone. The monument has already been described by a correspondent in these columns, and we now repeat the description:—"It consists of an angel, carved in fine Carrara marble, with semi-folded wings and holding a fleur-de-lis, looking with reverent sympathy upon the graves. On the pedestal beneath are inscribed the names of those who were so ruthlessly murdered, while a small flat headstone is placed on each grave, a dwarf iron railing surrounding the whole."

### HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

#### BEST SCORE CUP FOR AUGUST.

Mr. C. Percival, R.B.	96	18	78
Rev. J. R. Vallings	97	8	89
Mr. C. E. Hume	94	4	90
Commodore Boyes	102	11	91
Mr. P. de C. Morris	108	15	93
Mr. C. A. Tones	109	15	94
Mr. W. A. Duff	108	12	96
Mr. C. H. Grace	110	12	98

### HONGKONG RIPLE ASSOCIATION.

Four members only competed for the Short Range Cup and Spoons shot for on Saturday afternoon over the 200 and 500 yards distance. Private Wilson, R.B., won the Cup outright with a fair score of 61, and the Spoon for the highest net aggregate also fell to this shot. Appended are the full scores:—

	200 yards.	500 yards.	Allow- ance for Han- d Rife.	M.H. discp	To- tal
Private Wilson, R.B.	29	30	—	2	61
St. Mr. Spencer, R.A.	30	23	—	8	61
Mr. H. McPhail	29	23	3	2	57
Mr. W. M. Deas	27	12	3	10	52

The *Tungsha* light-vessel has been sold by auction at Shanghai for Tls. 3,350 to Mr. Fook Chun, of the China and Japan Trading Co. She was towed to Tungkadoo to be broken up.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

### CONCERNING TYPHOONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I have read with great interest the correspondence in the *China Mail* relating to storm signals, but I do not think that either "Ariel" or Captain Tillett can in any way improve the mode of signals now in use. "Ariel" suggests a series of signals denoting the course; these are very complicated and useless, for it must be remembered that the direction of the typhoon is notified as soon as its existence is ascertained; see forecast of Observatory, 28th July, 10.30 a.m., "Typhoon in N. Luzon moving towards N.W. Red drum hoisted." The black drum was hoisted the next morning and it was then apparent to any one (especially to sailors) that the typhoon had been travelling in a N. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. direction during the night. The gale gun was fired at 9 a.m. and the black south cone hoisted soon after, denoting that the centre would pass to the south of us. The wind was then freshening from the N.N.E. It increased in force during the afternoon and gradually veered, the centre passing about 40 miles to the S.S.W. of us about 10 p.m. The signals used for this typhoon were simple and correct, and I do not think could be improved on. Whether the two guns denoting typhoon force of wind are fired rapidly or not makes no difference, for as soon as one is fired any one with common sense knows that another one will follow in a few minutes. It must be remembered that by the time the two guns are fired most of the steamers in harbour are already in shelter.

Experience has taught us that all the severe typhoons in Hongkong pass to the south of it and that the most violent winds are from E.N.E. to S.E. Typhoon force of wind from the N.W. backing to S.W. causes very little damage except to the junks lying in Yaumati Bay, which would then be exposed to the W. and S.W. winds. Typhoons from this direction are few and far between.

What we require for Hongkong are a number of reliable stations in the neighbourhood for the express purpose of warning the colony alone. Manila possesses stations of great value to her, but not to us, as all her stations are situated on the east coast of Luzon solely for forecasting tracks of typhoons likely to cross over or near her; these typhoons generally cross Central Luzon in a W.N.W. direction and affect the weather here with nothing more than a moderate north-easterly veering gale. We require a station in N. Luzon with direct telegraphic communication, another at South Cape, Formosa, and a third at the Pratas Shoal, the last named being the most important of all. Lying about 200 miles to the E.S.E. of us it would be of infinite value to us in forecasting storms that come through the Bashee and Balingtang Channels and from N. Luzon, especially if they were to travel in a W.N.W. direction, for the Pratas would be right in their track. I would strongly urge the Government to move in this matter, either by annexing the Pratas for the purposes of a meteorological station or by approaching the Chinese Government and urging upon them the necessity for such a station.

METEOROLOGIST.

Hongkong, 27th August, 1896.

### THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF HONGKONG AND THE MACAO COLLEGE BOYS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Concerning the incident that occurred in the Roman Catholic Cathedral last Thursday week, mistake after mistake has been made. I have already begged pardon of the Bishop for the part I had in it and I little dreamt I should have to beg pardon in public, but the letter which appeared in your paper this week forces me to do so on account of all the blame falling on his Lordship.

In the letter of your correspondent it is said I had leave from the proper quarter to perform our devotions in the Cathedral. Unfortunately I had not such permission. I took everything



upon myself. A few days before, I had been to visit the Bishop, but I was informed he was sick in bed; and when I went with the boys on Thursday to the Church I had no idea he was well again.

Now, when we were in the middle of the litany His Lordship sent word that he wanted to speak to me. Thinking he was still ill I thought I would wait until the litany was over. Then came a second message. At this I jumped up at once and went towards the sacristy. On my way I met a Chinese priest, whom I took for the sacristan, for Chinese priests have no distinctive dress, and he told me the Bishop had sent orders that the singing should be stopped. In order that the singing should not stop abruptly and that the boys should not think badly of the Bishop, I went at once and told the choir-master to end the litany by singing the *Agnus Dei*. All these actions of mine were interpreted by the Bishop as so many acts of disobedience to formal orders, and at first sight no one can blame him; and as we were unconsciously interfering with the rehearsal which was to take place at 6 p.m. the Bishop was made very angry, and there and then came forward to stop the singing himself, saying it was a shame that superiors' orders were so disobeyed.

This is the plain truth. We were in the church at an hour when generally nothing whatever is going on and when there is hardly a soul there and certainly without the slightest idea that we were interfering with anybody. You will understand, therefore, how anxious I was that the whole thing should be dropped and how exceedingly sorry I was when it was made public by your correspondent. I hope and trust that all the Catholics in Hongkong will forget all about what has happened and will not think uncharitably of their Bishop, who thought himself so much slighted in his own church.—I remain, yours faithfully,

WILLIAM ARKWRIGHT, S.J.

St. Joseph's College,  
Macao, 28th August, 1896.

### PROPOSED TARIFF ON MANUFACTURES IN CHINA.

COPY OF A MEMORIAL FROM THE TSUNGLI YAMEN.

(Shenpao, 11th August, 1896.)

Your servants, the Ministers of the Tsungli Yamèn, on their knees present a Memorial with regard to the settlement of the tariff on manufactured goods, in order to maintain due regard for the public revenue and to secure substantial profit. Prostrate, they pray for the sacred glance on the memorial which they have reverently prepared.

We would observe with regard to the manufacture of goods by machinery at the various Treaty Ports, as for instance, the cotton manufacture and silk filature in the south, and the manufacture of grape wine in the north, that on several occasions the Superintendent of Trade for the Northern and Southern Ports have memorialised requesting that such produce shall only pay the export duty, or they have requested that both Customs Duty and Likin be remitted for some years, the intention being to benefit the people at the expense of the Government in the hope of giving an impetus to trade. At that time there was no express stipulation regarding the manufacture of goods by foreign merchants and it was deemed advisable to act in accordance with the exigencies of affairs. After the conclusion of the Treaty of Shimonoseki, foreign merchants of all nationalities were empowered to manufacture native produce. As former Treaties do not provide for this contingency, it is imperative to devise some equitable mode of action calculated to arrest the drain on the country's resources, and to deprive (foreigners) of a pretext (i.e., for demanding the abatement or abolition of duties) at the present moment. Japanese merchants are buying land in Shanghai for the erection of factories, and the merchants of other nationalities are also establishing factories in great numbers. Thus in the twinkling of an eye, steam factories are established at the Treaty Ports as thick as trees, and commodities of all kinds overflow. Those who enjoy the advantages accruing from these manufactures should also incur the responsibility of paying duties. In the case of a new

undertaking like this, it is very necessary to settle uniform tariff regulations without making distinctions, in virtue of which some pay heavier and others lighter duties; so that it may be easy for all to conform therewith. We find that foreign merchants importing foreign produce pay, in the majority of cases, an import duty of 5 per cent. On sending the goods into the interior, a further transit duty of Tls. 2, 5 mace is charged. Foreign merchants purchasing native produce in the interior under Transit Pass pay in addition to the export duty the half or transit duty, after which they are at liberty to export the goods. Foreign merchants carrying produce for sale, whether for import or export, pay no further duties beyond the Customs duty and the transit duty; but native produce which has not yet reached the foreign consignee, and foreign produce which has been delivered to the native purchaser must both pay likin to supply the deficiencies in the revenue. Moreover, where goods are manufactured by machinery (in China) lighterage, freight, insurance, and coolie hire are all saved, less capital is required and profits are abundant. Your memorialists having deliberated together would suggest that, leaving the Viceroy and Governors of the various provinces to fix the amount of the *loti shui* and likin due on native produce at the place of production; manufactured produce, whether Chinese or foreign, should, before it leaves the place of manufacture, pay double the duty of five per cent prescribed in the case of foreign exports, so as to supplement the likin payable in the interior. This amounts to a duty of 10 per cent. Hereafter, whatever be their destination, all goods will be exempt from likin; the gain in duties balancing the loss in likin, so that the public revenue will remain at its present figure. At the present funds are unusually scarce, and liabilities multifarious. This is not an extravagant project to "mend the fold when the sheep has gone," but the intention is "to make use of the guest (foreigner) in order to establish the host (China)." The native merchant eats the produce and dwells on the soil of China and should know how difficult it is for the Government to devise expedients. The goods of the foreign merchant find a ready market, and it is only right to have in view the same treatment for all.

Should your Imperial Majesty's assent be received, memorialists will communicate with the Superintendents of Trade for the northern and southern ports, desiring them to direct the Superintendents of Customs to take uniform action in accordance with the above suggestions.

In duty bound we present this memorial reverently prepared setting forth the proposed tariff regulations to govern manufactured goods. Prostrate we pray for your Majesty's sacred glance thereon and that you may be pleased to let us know your pleasure. A reverent memorial.

Furthermore—The following representation has reached the Yamèn of your memorialists from Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of Customs:—

"Since China has been opened to foreign trade, goods coming from or going into the interior either paid likin, or transit duty. Foreign merchants' goods going into the interior, having paid the transit duty and received a transit duty certificate, thereupon become exempt from paying likin *en route*. This procedure applies equally to both Chinese and foreign merchants. Native produce coming from the interior under Transit Pass is exempt from likin *en route*, and is only under the necessity on reaching a port to pay the transit duty, after which it is exported. This privilege is confined to foreign merchants and Chinese merchants are not entitled to it. But it frequently happens that Chinese merchants fraudulently induce the various foreign firms to purchase and bring down native produce, their object being to evade the payment of likin. This produce is not exported to foreign countries, the result being that honest trade and the likin-revenue of all the provinces both suffer alike. If it is wished to put a stop to these abuses, the only thing to do is to allow Chinese merchants to take out transit passes in the same way as foreign merchants, so that they can buy native produce and convey it to the ports. Thus a stop will be put to the spread of corrupt practices, and

by the same means the revenue will be brought to a flourishing condition. A memorandum is herewith enclosed for your perusal.

The memorandum contains a request for the adoption of the procedure laid down in the Chinkiang Customs regulations now in force; that is to say, when a merchant takes out a transit pass, he has to enter into a recognisance to the effect that if the goods do not reach a port within the time allowed, he shall forfeit six times the amount of the duty. On the goods reaching the port, he shall deposit three times the amount of the duty. If the said goods are duly exported to a foreign country, the export duty and the transit duty shall be deducted from the deposit, and the balance returned to the merchant. Should the goods in question not be exported to a foreign country, the entire deposit shall be paid over to the likin office.

Your memorialists would observe that when foreign merchants take out transit passes for the purchase of native goods, they should export the goods to the foreign country within the specified time; on this account only foreign merchants are allowed to take out transit passes while Chinese merchants are debarred from doing so. But, of late, foreign merchants do not in all cases export the native produce they have purchased, and there have been repeated cases in which Chinese merchants, being desirous of evading likin, have personated foreign merchants and obtained transit passes under false pretences. The foreign merchants take a delight in shielding them, so that they may divide profits, and thus frauds of all kinds are perpetrated which baffle complete investigation. The objects of the proposals advanced by the I.G. are the regulation of the revenue and the putting a stop to the spread of malpractices. After mature deliberation, memorialists are of opinion that the most just course to pursue will be to establish a uniform procedure in place of the present dual system, which only leads to false representations. We propose therefore that the Chinkiang Customs regulations quoted by the I.G. should be made to apply uniformly throughout the entire Customs system. That is to say: Chinese merchants taking out transit passes are exempt from paying likin in the interior, but must pay the transit duty. Furthermore, the native produce purchased need not necessarily be exported in every case on which account one and a half times the amount of the duty must be paid in excess as cover for the likin. The result will be advantage and not disadvantage, and will redound to the benefit both of the revenue and of trade.

Should you Majesty signify assent, memorialists will send instructions to the Inspector-General of Customs and request the Northern and Southern Superintendents of Trade to direct the various Superintendents of Customs to settle a date for the inauguration of the new system.

As in duty bound we present this supplementary memorial and prostrate pray your Imperial Majesty to deign to glance thereon and to favour us with your commands. A reverent memorial.—N. C. Daily News.

### COLONEL DENBY'S NARROW ESCAPE.

Peking, 13th August.

When we last wrote that Colonel and Mrs. Denby were expected back, we did not know of the dangers through which they passed, and which are now the talk of all the foreigners in Peking, and will be for some time to come. They left Tientsin last week, Thursday, the 6th. They had two house-boats, which were towed by a steam-tug of Viceroy Wang's. The river, on account of the heavy rains, was nearly up to the top of the embankment, and in many places the current down stream was very swift, requiring extra caution. On Saturday morning Col. and Mrs. Denby were sitting reading in the head house-boat. Colonel Denby being nearer the front. The tug steamed ahead at the usual rate, around rather a swift curve, and in an instant, from the swift current down stream and the tug pulling up stream, the house-boat struck the point of the embankment, and over it went about three-quarters way. The water at once rushed in through the front opening, nearly up to Mrs.



Denby's neck. She grabbed hold of the wood-work of the window above her, and Colonel Denby did the same from his position; still the chance for escape was in the boat not completely capsizing. In a short time the other house-boat, which carried the servants, came up, and the men climbed on to the side, or now the top, of the up-turned boat. They stretched their hands down through the window and dragged out first Mrs. Denby and then Col. Denby. Neither task was a light one. Getting outside the boat, they had to jump into the mud and water and wade up to the shore. By this time a crowd of spectators had gathered on the shore, but, as usual, never offered to do anything. The boatmen, however, worked hard, trying to rescue a few things floating off in the water or hid away in the boat. After being transferred to the tug-boat, the Chinese boats and men were left behind to rescue as much as possible and to come on later, while Col. and Mrs. Denby proceeded on their way to T'ungcheo. In a short time a heavy gale came up, and the rain descended in torrents. Accommodation was found in the captain's room, and on Sunday they reached T'ungcheo. After some little trouble sedan-chairs were secured and on Monday they proceeded to Peking. The stone-road in places was covered with mud and water, making the task of carrying safely two such persons as these "heavy weights" by no means an easy one. Without further mishaps they at last arrived home. It is not yet known what is the loss, all of which is regarded as little when the danger is taken into consideration.

Both Col. and Mrs. Denby were remarkably free from all trepidation, the main anxiety of the former being for his wife. The Chinese, while also anxious to rescue her, thought it especially incumbent on them to save the representative of the United States Government.

The whole journey, we understand, all the way from the steamer at the bar to Peking, was not only more troublesome and perilous, but more expensive than their trip by steamer from Kobe to Tientsin. All the trouble of delay, of transfer, of poor accommodation, of rains and winds, makes travelling in China far from agreeable.

Colon Denby has returned greatly improved in health, though he requires to be careful. The medical treatment in Japan was of the best, both a competent German and Japanese waiting upon him. The attention of the Japanese Government was also the most cordial and flattering, but none too excessive. If he had been in good health, he could have participated in many festivities. The Japanese more than the Chinese are quick to appreciate such labours as he put forth for the cause of peace.—*Mercury correspondent.*

### THE PEIHO.

Tientsin, 22nd August.

The most fruitful topic of conversation this week has certainly been the river, whose vagaries have reached the culminating point of entirely suspending, for the time being, the lighter traffic of the port.

The breach in the bight of the Tientsin Bend, referred to in our last issue, is still open and the current rushing into it like a mill race, the immediate effect being the silting up of the East Reach to such an extent that it is only now navigable for native cargo-boats and sampans. The lighter *Shamrock* and tug *Exco* have been safely got back into the river, but the same risk of being sucked by the current into the plain attends any craft of a draught too deep to avoid getting within its influence. Loaded lighters have been able to get up to within a short distance of the match factory, where they have transhipped their cargoes into native boats. Pai-tang-kao anchorage not being available at present, owing to the shallowness of the reaches below, steamers are compelled to make T'angku their terminus, and to fall back upon native boats for the discharge of their cargoes, a state of things, we believe, unprecedented in the history of the port. The loss to the shipping interests concerned must be very serious; native cargo-boats only carry about 300 piculs each, and are limited in number. Taking into account therefore that they take at least three days to make their way back to Tientsin against this stream, a long delay to the steamers is unavoidable.

Looking at the breach in the Tientsin Bend with the water, for some little distance at least, making a bee-line in the direction of the South Reach, it seems to a lay mind as if a favourable opportunity for making the long talked-of short cut has just been missed. Had there been anything like a ditch existing to guide the course of the current to a given point and a boatload or two of stones sunk at the entrance of the East Reach, just where a portion of the stream still flows down, it certainly looks as if the river would have soon cut out a new channel, and shortened the distance between Tientsin and the Bar, which, in the opinion of many, is needed to improve the Peiho. It could, however, scarcely be foreseen that the breach would occur just where it did, and the only thing to do now is to get it repaired as soon as possible, and return the stream to its old channel past the match factory.

This unfortunate state of affairs points to one of two courses: either steamers will have to abandon Tientsin altogether in favour of T'angku and discharge their cargoes there; or prompt and drastic measures will have to be taken by all concerned in the direction of river improvement. To change the terminus of the steamers would, it is very evident, seriously affect vested interests here, and we hope that proper use will be made of the report now in course of preparation by Mr. de Linde to bring matters to an issue.

It is now more than a week since the breach in the Tientsin Bend occurred, and nothing whatever has been done by the authorities. This neglect is, no doubt, partly due to the fact that the Viceroy, who is Superintendent of Northern Trade, has been allowed to remain in ignorance of the facts. It is, we believe, also partly due to the fact that the Taotai does not hold his post as a substantive appointment, and that, having as usual paid handsomely for his appointment, and not knowing how soon he may have to move on, he is adverse to spending one cent more than he is compelled to. Moreover, he appears to be a person of colossal ignorance in all matters of the world outside his yamen walls, and, as we are informed, he regards the present trouble in the river as a matter which can wait.

The East Reach, on account of the diversion of the current, promises to become entirely silted up. If this happens, the stoppage of the rush of water by its normal outlet must lead to disaster to the surrounding country, to say nothing of the, at least, temporary cessation of Tientsin as a port.

The acme of absurdity will be reached if we sit down and confess that it is in the power of any petty Nero to inflict so much damage and loss as the present neglect of the river entails. The Taotai is not a big enough man for so big a rôle, and he should scarcely be consulted in the matter.

The state of the river should be the subject of energetic representations to the Superintendent of Northern Trade—that is, to the Viceroy Wang Wenshao, and we feel sure that if he is made to understand the extremely serious nature of the case he will do something. If not, then Peking should be tried. It is simply appalling that so much wealth should be wasted, so much misery and suffering caused, and that trade should be harassed to the limits of endurance year after year for the want of a little public money judiciously and honestly spent.—*Peking and Tientsin Times.*

### PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF THE SOOCHOW DIFFICULTY.

A short time ago an American citizen rented a house at Soochow, intending to use it as an office for a line of steam-launches between Soochow and Shanghai. The officials interfered, threw the owners into prison, and sealed up the house. The settlement of the affair is described by the *China Gazette* as follows:—

The little difficulty at Soochow between the local officials and Mr. Lambuth has been settled satisfactorily and with a rapidity that beats the record. This happy result is due solely to the energy and prompt action of Mr. T. R. Jernigan, the U.S. Consul-General. Immediately upon receipt of particulars of the trouble reaching Shanghai, Consul-General Jernigan took a steam-launch, and accompanied by Mr. Lambuth

started for Soochow, arriving there at three o'clock on Saturday morning, having only taken twelve hours to accomplish the journey of eighty odd miles. He at once communicated with Mr. Tsai, who is in charge of the Bureau for Foreign Affairs (our old friend Magistrate Tsai of the Mixed Court), and informed him of his desire to see Taotai Loh that day. The sudden and totally unexpected appearance of the U.S. Consul-General upon the scene appears to have greatly perplexed and non-plussed the Soochow mandarins, who were taken quite unawares, and before they had time to formulate their usual plans for procrastination and hair-splitting. An attempt was made to put off the Consul-General's visit until next day, in order, apparently, to give the Taotai breathing time and some hours to collect his wits; but the old trick did not succeed, and in the same afternoon he had the pleasure of explaining his outrageous attempt to violate foreign rights and to ride rough-shod over the new treaty. The result was that, after declaring publicly that no foreigner could rent or buy a house outside the new Concession, he offered to procure another house for Mr. Lambuth's steam-launch office beyond the Concession, and he was obliged, before any discussion as to the details of the settlement was reached, to first agree to the release and reinstatement in their homes of the two Chinese who had leased to Mr. Lambuth the house that the Taotai had seized and sealed up. This having been agreed to, after some of the usual Chinese official objections and a vain attempt to lead off the discussion into various side issues, the settlement of the little difficulty was satisfactorily arrived at, the Taotai being, during its progress considerably enlightened upon the rights of foreigners to reside and do business at the new treaty port, though it has not yet been formally declared open to commerce. It was clearly demonstrated to him that if there was any misunderstanding about this point, it was because of the ignorance or negligence of the Chinese Government to draw up the necessary rules and regulations for the new port and to declare it open, as the Shimonoseki Treaty stipulated that the four new ports were to become "open" within six months after the exchange of the ratifications, and it was for the Chinese Government to make their rules and issue the necessary regulations in time and that they could not inflict injury upon foreigners wishing to take advantage of the Treaty by pleading their own shortcomings. In justice to the Taotai, we may add that he does not appear to be even yet officially notified by his Government that Soochow is an open port, though it is believed that it will be declared open on the 1st October. Not only American residents, but all foreigners in China are under an obligation to the U.S. Consul-General for his prompt and strong action in upholding treaty rights in this matter and his example is one that we would like to see followed by some of his colleagues when their nationals' interests are threatened and injured.

### THE RAILWAY QUESTION.

The chief topic of conversation in China for some months has been railroads; but few stop to think how many plans have been referred to the Chinese Government, and, in fact, we doubt if the great men of state have themselves discriminated as to the points of difference. About their only plan at present is to do nothing. The first plan which comes naturally to the mind of all the readers of the *Gazette* is the plan which was represented in the Imperial Edict, and which Wei and Hsu and Liu and others attempted to carry out. This is none other than a plan to build the railroads of China as mercantile concerns, the stock to be taken up by the Chinese, and the business to be managed by them. This is all very fine, and quite proper, but the only trouble is the Chinese won't subscribe. This is not that they have no money, but that they have no confidence either in the protection or stability of their own Government, or in the honest and economical administration of Chinese directors. So it is that foreigners have come forward with the plan of building the railroads by concessions. This plan is also very feasible—to the one who gets the concession. The Chinese thus far have not "caught on." The French want it,



for it is a benefit to them. The Americans want it, for it is a benefit for them. And so on with all the builders. The Chinese want to know where the benefit is coming to them. The Chinese merchants are ready for the plan and would be willing to go shares with proper shareholders. The Government is not quite so imbecile as to forget the possible foreign complications. When any concessionaire comes forward and makes his own interests or the interests of his own country first, we cannot well blame the Chinese if they at least halt and hesitate. They have, we are sure, no objection to concessions in the abstract, for they know that other countries have tried the same, and sometimes with a decided advantage. They stand in a trembling condition over the compulsion and threats which weigh them down. If they were to follow their own inclinations with perfect freedom they would, so far as railroads are concerned, go to the Americans, but other governments are looking vengeance, while Col. Denby never thinks of demanding anything for his countrymen in matters of trade. This very geniality is agreeable to the Chinese, and might lead them to trust the Americans all the more, but in these days the Chinese are only moved by force. When the force relapses, the action ceases; sleep again falls on the eyelids. Hence it is that concessions are not given. If China had any guarantees that foreign Powers would always be her friends and not her enemies, concessions would be granted in less than a week's time to every reliable company of any nationality that wanted it, but China sees very well that several of the Powers have their own selfish ends in view and are ready to squash this ancient empire; hence China does nothing except what she is forced to do. A large number of the foreign advisers of China believe, as more than once this paper has strongly advocated, that the whole country should be thrown open to the trade and traders of the world, and that the right should be given by the Chinese Government to any and all to form companies and take stock, whether they be native-born or subjects of other countries. In Japan, with all her keen insight, foreigners were allowed to hold shares in railroad undertakings and we have yet to learn that they suffered from the arrangement. We know very well that China is not as strong now as Japan was when she made this experiment, but China need hope for no escape from the aggressions of any Power, except as she opens her doors equally and justly to all, the mutual inter-actions arising from such a policy preserving the country. On this plan the initiative would proceed from the Chinese Government in giving the right, and also from the Chinese merchants who should be the first to come forward to form a company. The company would be a Chinese company under the Chinese Government, but foreigners could be shareholders, and have a say in the management. Foreigners as individuals, rather than as a foreign company or a foreign government, would be admitted to the business. We have good authority for believing that in Peking there is a growing tendency to adopt some such plan, but being something new the old men who sit in the seat of power—or rather kneel—are afraid to launch out into the mighty deep.

We understand that Mr. Yung Wing has a plan something like this, though decked up with his vivid imagination. His scheme is more a governmental one, but being this, it must inevitably tend either to the concession principle, or to the principle of a Chinese company open to all. Another method which has been broached, and which strikes some of the Chinese favourably, is for the Chinese Government to appoint some one foreigner to be the inspector-general of railroads, much as Sir Robert Hart is the head of the Maritime Customs. In this case a foreigner would have complete oversight and foreigners would be employed in the work and management, but the business would be a Government business. We are convinced that if a reliable foreigner should be placed at the head, the Chinese would no longer hesitate to take shares. We may have more to say of this plan later on, but at present it is not much more than a fancy. It is only within the last few days that we have heard of still another scheme. A man,

named Wang, we believe, has already petitioned the Ministry of War in Peking, asking that the railroad from Peking to Hankow be built by a lottery. He would have central stations at Canton, Shanghai, Tientsin, Hankow, Chungking, and other cities. We do not know how he has worked out his plan, but we understand that all who draw tickets would be the stock-holders. However, whether the scheme be carried out, the Chinese have enough of the gambling spirit in them to rush at anything in the nature of a lottery. There seems to be some doubt whether the Government would care to sanction such a proposition. The princes and other officials would have no hesitation or compunction in buying tickets, but they look upon the Government, like many foreigners, as a sacred institution, so that a lottery publicly announced and imperially sanctioned would scarcely seem proper. Perhaps Confucius might object. But it does not much matter. The whole speculation is much of a lottery, as is the Government itself.—*China Gazette.*

### NEWCHWANG.

20th August.

Several days ago a party of Russian military men arrived here from Korea via Haicheng. It appears they have completed a survey from some point on the Yalu to Haicheng, and from thence to Newchwang. Here they expected to fall in with another party who are similarly engaged about Moukden. From this point the combined forces will pursue their work towards Talienswan and Port Arthur. One party, consisting of six Russians, is accompanied by Mongol and Korean interpreters.

Our Bund is once more in good order and the damages caused by the late floods are made good. The work has cost many hundreds of dollars, and as our population is very limited everybody will be expected to make an extra effort to meet all expenses incurred. Most of the freshwater ponds which were flooded by salt water are being drained at enormous expense to the several native guilds.

Shipping business is very dull at present, as is usual for this time of year. Many of the vessels leaving here are departing half-loaded to fill up at Chefoo. The weather at present is very disagreeable—dust and high winds.—*Mercury correspondent.*

### HONGKONG.

The conspiracy in Manila afforded an interesting topic of conversation during the week. A shocking murder at Hongham has also attracted considerable attention because of an extraordinary plot connected with the crime. On Thursday the Sanitary Board had a meeting, but the business was only of a routine order. On Thursday evening a new organ at the Roman Catholic Cathedral was formally opened by a recital and a grand concert.

There were 2,154 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 215 were Europeans.

It is probable that Lai Mit will be brought to Kowloon City in about a fortnight's time to be decapitated.

The Governor has given his consent, in the name and on behalf of the Queen, to the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance.

It is notified that on and after the 1st October next the postage on letters between Hongkong and Formosa will be ten cents.

There were only three cases of plague from noon on Saturday, August 22nd, to noon last Saturday. A curious fact is that one of the patients was a child only three months old.

Two ricksha coolies in the employ of Mr. W. Osborne, Bay View Hotel, were fined on the 27th August \$10, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment, for refusing to obey their master's lawful orders.

The maximum temperature last month was 94, on the 23rd, and the minimum 75.9, on the 29th, the mean for the month being 82.9. According to the ten years' table (1884-1893) published with the Observatory report for 1893 the maximum temperature for July was 92.9, the minimum 72.1, and the mean 81.5, so that last month was sensibly above the average. The rainfall amounted to 12.42 inches.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:

Kwong Mow Tai \$25  
Leung Yan Po 25  
Man On Insurance Co. Ltd. 25

The Rev. S. St. A. Bayley, Naval Chaplain, whose term of service on this station has expired leaves for home by the *Empress of India* to-day. He will be relieved by the Rev. F. A. J. Gage, who arrives from the North by the *Humber* next week. The duties on Sunday next will be undertaken by the Rev. G. R. Vallings, Military Chaplain.

The *Nagasaki Shipping List* of the 22nd August says:—Although Hongkong has now been declared a "clean port," vessels arriving here are still subjected to a very close inspection at the Megami Quarantine Station. Several complaints have been received as to the length of time they are detained there. When the plague was at its height in Hongkong it was seldom that a ship arriving thence was detained for inspection for more than one hour, but now much longer is taken. Recently the *Shanghai* was kept waiting there for two hours, the *Tantalus* for three, and other vessels for similarly lengthy times. This causes much serious inconvenience and should be remedied as soon as possible.

The *Manila Comercio* of the 21st August says:—We learn that there will shortly be presented by the principal shipping firms and merchants of this city a respectful petition to the Government praying that vessels from Hongkong with a clean bill of health and carrying no Chinese passengers may be admitted to free pratique, or at least that the fifteen days quarantine (less the time occupied by the voyage) now imposed may be reduced to three days' observation. The principal ground on which the petition is based is not only the loss occasioned by the delay, but also the fact that since the 7th August Hongkong has been declared a clean port and clean bills of health have been issued.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* of the 22nd August says:—The strict quarantine of seven days applied to Chinese arriving from Hongkong, which has resulted in depriving the vessels on the Hongkong-Haiphong line of their usual contingent of Chinese passengers—who preferred either to forego the passage or to take junk at Pakhoi for Moncau and land at the point, where no precautions were taken—will soon disappear. Information having been received from the Consular authorities at Hongkong that the bubonic plague has disappeared, the Health Department has convened a meeting of the Haiphong Sanitary Commission to consider the suppression of the quarantine or at least a reduction of its rigour.

A pearl diver from Tasmania was charged at the Police Court on the 28th August with stealing a £5 piece and four sovereigns from another pearl diver from Tasmania. The prosecutor has lately been enjoying a holiday in Hongkong, and one form of amusement was a visit on Tuesday to a cockloft in a barber's shop in Pottinger Street, where he met the prisoner, who has been in the colony a long time. They chatted and it transpired that the prosecutor had some gold coins upon him. According to his story the prisoner offered to buy one of the sovereigns for a chain pendant. The offer was agreed to and then, perhaps for very good reasons, the prisoner suggested that prosecutor should go downstairs and get his hair cut. The prosecutor thought the suggestion a good one, and he took off his coat, which contained the money, and went down and had his hair cut, leaving the prisoner and another man, who was asleep, in the room. During the hair cutting operation the prisoner went downstairs and again talked about the gold sovereign. Prosecutor, after the barber had finished with him, went back to the cockloft, when he missed all his money, which consisted of a £5 piece and four sovereigns. He gave an alarm, woke the man who was sleeping, and fetched a policeman. The prisoner had by that time got away and was not caught until the following day, when no money was found upon him. The case was remanded.



The Rifle Brigade concluded their birthday celebration by giving a concert in the City Hall on the evening of the 25th August. It is questionable whether at any previous time in its history the theatre was so densely packed and the enthusiasm of the audience so hearty and sustained as on this occasion. Quite two hundred people could not find seats, and yet at the finish everyone seemed loth to leave, notwithstanding the heated atmosphere. The programme was worthy of the memorable occasion, and the artistes were appreciated so much that many encores had to be given. We congratulate the Brigade upon the possession of such an abundance of musical talent, and the ladies and gentlemen who assisted the soldiers well deserved the loud bursts of applause awarded them. The artistes were—Mrs. Vallings, Mrs. Norcott, Mr. C. H. Grace, Private Lang (who is another Brady), Sergeant Smyth, Mr. A. H. Grayson, Mr. J. H. Thresher, Privates Pinching, Newman, and Payce, Mr. A. Bannerman, and Mr. C. T. Robinson. The Band of the Brigade gave pleasing selections of music in their customary style, and Private Gibbons ably acted as accompanist.

### MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT].

28th August.

Very sad news has been received from Timor. A few days ago a telegram arrived saying that the Portuguese had occupied the village of Cotubaba and Balibo and would continue to attack Sanir and Fatumean. Yesterday another telegram was received saying there had been three deaths and forty-seven wounded and asking for money and war material. Over here no one knows what are the ideas of the Governor of Timor with reference to the natives. Since he took over the government there has been constant war, a constant drawing of money from the Macao treasury, constant requests for a man-of-war, war material, soldiers, officers, &c. It is sad indeed to see such a large amount of our money being spent on such a useless country, a country in the hands of a man who seems to think that the only way he can secure the respect and affection of the natives for the ruling nation is by waging constant war upon them, the only result of which will be to make the natives hate everything Portuguese. War is sometimes necessary, but not such a war as that which has so long been going on in Timor, which has already ruined the island, thrown the coffee plantations out of cultivation, and driven the natives to seek protection in Dutch Timor. The Lisbon Government should take note of the way the Governor of Timor is acting and recall him.

The island of Timor could be made to yield a good revenue, but if this is to be brought about Portugal must send out an able Governor, one who would know how to induce the natives to work and make the island prosperous, one who would take measures for their education and civilisation.

The gunboat *Diu* arrived here yesterday morning from Singapore, which port she left on the 20th ultimo. She will shortly go to your port for cleaning and repairs.

I hear that a meeting was held last Saturday in connection with the affairs of the Lyceum National. It seems that this educational establishment is going from bad to worse, and great differences have arisen among the professors. These professors will be the ruin of the school and the parties who will have to suffer will be the boys and girls of Macao. The Government is spending a great deal of money to keep up this school, but it should be strictly laid down that one professor should never take more than two classes, as he cannot attend to more. At the Lyceum, however, while some have only one class the Principal has no less than four, and he has, moreover, many Government duties to attend to outside, besides having an engagement with the Chinese Imperial Customs. People justly ask if one man can discharge so many diverse duties.

The repair of the Praya wall and roadway makes practically no progress and it looks as though the wall would be left in ruins like the San Domingo Market.

### CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

A new standard was established in front of the yamen of the Viceroy on the 23rd instant in place of the old one, which was broken down during the late typhoon on the 29th ultimo. All the officials were there to witness the sight and some ceremonies were performed in celebration of the new standard.

A fire broke out on the 21st instant at 9 p.m. in the theatre in the village near Pontong. On the report of the fire the people were greatly frightened. Some broke their legs by jumping from the benches to the ground and some were knocked down by the rush of the people. Over one hundred persons were severely injured, but fortunately no life was lost. The fire was extinguished without difficulty by the actors and the damage was small. The cause of the fire was the upsetting of a kerosene lamp.

The Viceroy has sent a weiyuen to Kuchow to report as to the damages caused by the typhoon on the 4th instant.

On the 18th instant a junk which was sailing from Shekloong to Canton was robbed near Sap-tsz-an. The junk was heavily laden with silk. Some robbers boarded her as passengers before her departure and when she was sailing near Sap-tsz-an, two boats were rowed up to her. The robbers who were in the junk then drew out their revolvers and fatally shot the master of the junk. The other robbers from the two boats also boarded the junk and they then took away all the valuables from the passengers and the junk to the value of over ten thousand dollars.

The flower-boats which were recently driven away by the local officers now anchor at the same place as usual.

H.E. Chang Pat-az, Consul-General at Singapore, arrived at Canton on the 25th instant. After arrival His Excellency went to pay his respects to the Viceroy and the Governor. It is said that he will soon leave Canton for Peking to help to build the Peking and Hankow railway.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Julius Neumann, of the I.M. Customs, who has been acting as Professor of German in the Tungwénkuan at Peking, is now on his way to take up the post of Acting Commissioner of Customs at Shashi.

Arrangements are being made, we learn from the *Free Press*, to tow to Singapore the American ship *Lillian L. Robbins*, which put into Saigon dismasted in December last, after encountering a severe typhoon. She has been lying at Cape St. James ever since, and is now to be brought to Singapore for repairs.

Among the samples analysed by Dr. Bott, of Singapore, last year, was one of wine (hook) produced in China, where large vineyards have been started by certain Singapore residents. The wine, though young, was of good quality, and appears to have a fair chance of successful competition with the brands now imported from Europe.

According to native despatches received from Hangchow, the first silk filature with foreign machinery ever built in that city commenced work on the 15th August. The filature has only sixty odd sets of reeling machines, which are worked by some eighty women specially engaged from Shanghai. The water where the new filature is situated is reported to be specially adapted for making silk thread.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A native with rather novel ideas concerning the administration of justice within the Settlements was brought before the Mixed Court Magistrate at Shanghai on the 23rd August for having returned from deportation. He appeared most indignant at his arrest, as he said he had paid \$60 odd to two of his friends to "square" matters with the Municipal detectives and Mixed Court runners. Fortified with this dodge he had quietly returned, but has by this time very probably lost faith in the effects of a bribe. He was sentenced to deportation a second time, whilst his two trustees (?) also appeared and received the same punishment with the very considerable addition of 200 blows.—*Mercury*.

The preparations for opening the Australian line of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have been completed, and the service is expected to be started by the *Kinshu-maru* in October next.

The *Nagasaki Shipping List* says:—The steamer *Porro* has now been handed over to her new owners, the Mitsu Bishi Company, while the *Wing Hong* and *Bonnington* are now flying the Japanese flag. The *Tai-yick* is, we understand, to be transferred to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha in a day or two. The new names of these vessels have not reached us as yet.

The first European child was born at Kuling, the new health resort on the mountains near Kiukiang, on Tuesday, 18th August. There are sixty Europeans now enjoying the cool temperature there. The lowest reading of the thermometer was on Wednesday night and Thursday morning, 19th and 20th, when it fell to sixty-one degrees. The highest reading of the thermometer there this summer was 81 degrees.—*Mercury*.

The *Jiji* says that the Japanese authorities in Formosa have established a system of medical inspection of fallen women, Japanese and others, for checking the spread of disease. The inspection is of course carried out by Japanese officials. In consequence, two Chinese girls have drowned themselves in the Tamsui river, two have poisoned themselves with opium, and many have left the country. Only fifty or sixty Chinese girls remain, willing to submit to the regulation.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—The native papers have given currency to a rumour that certain Japanese have employed a native to appear on their behalf for the purchase of some 130 mow of land on the Pootung side. There, it is said, will be built a number of steamer wharves for river and ocean going steamers to run between Shanghai and Yangtze ports, and Shanghai and the coast ports. Also on the Soochow creek will be built a pontoon for a Japanese Steam Launch Company with twelve launches to run between Shanghai, Soochow, and Hangchow.

### COMMERCIAL.

#### TEA.

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	2,900,304	3,991,193
Shanghai and Hankow.....	13,587,568	13,607,320
Foochow .....	5,976,756	7,509,809
	22,464,628	25,108,322

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Shanghai .....	3,036,356	11,994,717
Amoy.....	6,998,012	5,903,384
Foochow .....	1,131,222	1,608,212
	12,065,590	19,506,313

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow .....	22,541,381	26,706,212

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97 lbs.	1895-96 lbs.
Yokohama.....	15,515,625	19,829,325
Kobe .....	8,333,901	11,130,509
	23,849,526	30,959,834

#### SILK.

SHANGHAI, 27th August.—(From Mr. A. R. Burkill's circular).—London advices to 25th current advise a quiet market, and quote Blue Elephant 10/6 and Gold Killings 8/3. Raw Silk.—The market remains very quiet with a small daily business doing and no change in quotations. Tsatless.—350/400 bales have been booked at quotations below. Offers at anything less do not meet with sellers. Tayaasams.—About 100 bales have been setted at higher rates. Arrivals of Coarse Silks are very small indeed. Yellow Silks are in good demand, and new arrivals find an immediate market at very full prices. Arrivals as per Customs Returns from 20th to 26th August are, 717 bales White, 146 piculs Yellow, and 6



**piculs Wild Silks.** Filatures.—About 100 piculs Hand Filatures are reported settled on a basis of Tls. 460 for Black Horse No. 1. The export of Steam Filatures to date is:—To London 2 bales, Continent 432 bales, and New York 135 bales. Wild Silks.—A small lot of Filatures Tussah 8 Cocoons has been bought at Tls. 233. Waste Silk.—Only small transactions at about previous rates. Arrivals very moderate. Pongees.—Contracts for 6,000 pieces White Cloth 21/22 in. by 70 yards have been booked at previous quotations; higher prices are now asked.

#### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1895-96	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton .....	7,517	4,586
Shanghai .....	7,637	19,455
Yokohama .....	491	3,057
	15,675	27,098

#### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1895-96	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton .....	632	3,417
Shanghai .....	304	2,744
Yokohama .....	449	4,328
	1,385	10,489

#### CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 1st September.—Prices are advancing and holders are firm. Quotations for Formosa are \$51.50 to \$52.00. During the past week sales have been 100 piculs.

#### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 1st September.—The market is dull and prices have declined. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.22 to 7.25 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.52 to 6.56 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.47 to 4.50 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.29 to 4.32 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.10 to 7.13 "
do. " 2, White...	6.45 to 6.48 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.40 to 4.42 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.18 to 4.20 "
Soochow Sugar Candy .....	10.95 to 11.00 "
Shekloong " .....	9.37 to 9.40 "

#### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Riojun Maru*, Hongkong to Trieste, 20th August, took:—63 half-chests Tea, and 9 packages Partridge Canes; for Marseilles.—11 packages Rattanware, 65 cases Chinaware, and 1 case Silk; for London.—60 packages Partridge Canes, 1 case Silk Sashes, and 250 rolls Mats; for Antwerp.—2 cases Cigarettes, 100 bales Merchandise, 26 cases Bristles, 66 packages Rattan Core, 193 bales Bamboo Scraps, 4 cases Chinaware, 26 rolls Matting, and 3 cases Lanterns.

The steamer *Borneo*, Hongkong to Buenos Ayres, 22nd August, took:—200 packages Tea; for London.—24 cases Essence of Ylang Ylang, 3 cases Cigars, 1 box Hats, 445 bales Waste Silk, 443 bales Canes, 50 bales Punjum Silk, 89 rolls Mats, 27 cases Blackwoodware, 12 cases Copper Gongs, 1,200 cases Ginger, 40 cases Essential Oil, 75 cases Ginger, 13 packages Sundries, 8 boxes Tonkin Fans, 15,949 boxes Tea (25,935 lbs. Congou, 308,949 lbs. Scented Caper), 200 packages Tea unknown.

The steamer *Ravenna*, Hongkong to London, 27th August, took:—415 boxes Tea, 100 packages Tea, 130 bales Waste Silk, 7 cases Silk Piece Goods, 3 cases Floss Silk, and 6 cases Sundries; for Gibraltar.—6 cases Cigars, and 300 boxes Tea; for France.—351 packages Tea, 861 bales Waste Silk, and 4 cases Silk Piece Goods.

The steamer *Myrmidon*, Hongkong to London, 27th August, took:—9,375 boxes Tea (192,339 lbs. Scented Caper, 4,536 Scented Orange Pekoe), 100 cases Preserves, 200 bales Canes, 9 cases Blackwoodware, and 6 packages Sundries; for London option Manchester.—360 bales Waste Silk; for Glasgow.—25 cases Ginger.

#### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 1st Sept.—Bengal.—There has been a fair amount of business during the interval and prices have advanced to \$725 for New Patna, \$722½ for Old Patna, and \$737½ for New Benares. Malwa.—Transactions have been very limited, and quotations close unchanged. The following are the latest figures:—

New .....	\$730 with all'ances of 3½ to 5 cts.
Old (2½ yrs.) .....	\$740 " 1½ to 4 "
Old (6/10 yrs.) .....	\$780 " 0 to 1 "
Persian.—The market has continued dull, quotations closing at \$550 to \$590 for Oily and at \$560 to \$650 for Paper-wrapped drug.	
To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—	
New Patna .....	1,980 chests.
Old Patna .....	120 "
New Benares .....	230 "
Old Benares .....	6 "
Malwa .....	200 "
Persian .....	461 "

#### COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 27	715	715	732½	—	730	740/780
Aug. 28	720	715	732½	—	730	740/780
Aug. 29	717½	715	732½	—	730	740/780
Aug. 30	717½	715	732½	—	730	740/780
Aug. 31	725	720	749	—	730	740/780
Sept. 1	725	722½	737½	—	730	740/780

#### RICE.

HONGKONG, 1st September.—Prices have further declined. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary .....	\$2.20 to 2.23
" Round, good quality .....	2.54 to 2.56
" Long .....	2.62 to 2.65
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 .....	2.27 to 2.30
" Garden, " No. 1 .....	2.75 to 2.77
" White .....	2.91 to 2.96
" Fine Cargo .....	3.28 to 3.30

#### COALS.

HONGKONG, 1st September.—Market very quiet. Very small business reported. Quotations are:—Cardiff .....

#### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 2nd September.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—45 bales No. 8 at \$69 to \$69.50 to \$71, 69½ bales No. 10 at \$74 to \$78.75, 325 bales No. 12 at \$71.50 to \$82, 260 bales No. 16 at \$84 to \$90, 620 bales No. 20 at \$93.50 to \$100. *Grey Shirtings*.—500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 7 Boys at \$3.20, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.97½, 900 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.52½, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Peach at \$2.55 to \$2.57½, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Lion Chop at \$1.20. *White Shirtings*.—500 pieces Soldier at \$2.45, 500 pieces Red O. at \$2.65. *T-Cloths*.—3,000 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.32½ to \$2.72½, 900 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.90. *Turkey Reds*.—250 pieces 5 lbs. Clock at \$3.10. *Spanish Stripes*.—120 pieces B. B. B. at \$0.57½. *Long Ells*.—200 pieces 10 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.50. *Camlets*.—50 pieces 5 Cocks, assorted, at \$13.25, 150 pieces 9 Birds, Scarlet, at \$12.50, 200 pieces Tiger Chop, assorted, at \$13.70, 50 pieces 2 Ells, Scarlet, at \$13, 300 pieces 8 Persons, assorted, at \$17.50.

**METALS:**—Tin.—700 slabs Siam at \$32.75, 400 slabs Boong-chai at \$33.

#### COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20 .....	\$68.00 to \$97.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24 .....	100.00 to 105.00
" 22 to 24 .....	103.00 to 108.00
" 28 to 32 .....	114.00 to 119.00
" 38 to 42 .....	118.00 to 126.00

#### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. ....	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. ....	1.75 to 1.95
8.4 lbs. ....	2.00 to 3.00
9 to 10 lbs. ....	3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....	2.15 to 2.35
59 to 60 " ....	2.50 to 3.10
64 to 66 " ....	3.00 to 3.50
Fine ....	3.90 to 6.90
Book-folds. ....	3.20 to 5.40
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.60 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. ....	1.40 to 1.55
7lbs. (32 " ) ..	1.80 to 2.95
6lbs. (32 " ) ..	1.60 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 " ) ..	2.15 to 2.40
8 to 8½lbs. (36 in.) ....	2.35 to 3.05
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14lbs. ....	3.20 to 4.30

#### FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs. ....	1.20 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed .....	3.75 to 4.50
	per yard
Damasks .....	0.12 to 0.15
Chintzes—Assorted .....	3.07 to 0.10
Velvets—Black, 22 in. ....	0.21 to 0.23
Velveteens—18 in. ....	0.16 to 0.20
	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk ....	0.40 to 0.85

#### WOOLLENS

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. ....	0.55 to 0.95
Gorman .....	1.00 to 1.15
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. ....	1.25 to 3.50
	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet .....	6.50 to 8.00
Assorted .....	6.60 to 8.10
Camlets—Assorted .....	13.00 to 27.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted .....	10.00 to 15.00
Orleans—Plain .....	8.00 to 3.60
	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12lbs. ....	4.80 to 8.40

#### METALS

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod .....	3.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar ...	— to —
Swedish Bar .....	— to —
Small Round Rod .....	— to —
Hoop .....	— to —
Old Wire Rope .....	— to —
Lead, Australian .....	6.70 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. ....	27.00 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz. ....	26.50 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz. ....	26.50 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs .....	— to —
Tin .....	— to —

	per box
Tin-Plates .....	5.10 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel .....	4.25 to —

#### SUNDRIES

	per picul
Quicksilver .....	102.00 to —
	per box
Window Glass .....	3.50 to —
	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil .....	2.00 to 1.92

SHANGHAI, 27th August.—(From Messrs. Nosl Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report.)—We have again a very quiet market to report on this week, the business made public being of very small proportions, but this can scarcely be wondered at when one considers the very unfavourable conditions that importers have to work under. Prices in Manchester and New York keep very firm, while exchange, though perhaps a little stronger, is still far too low to assist business in any way. Against this it can be said that dealers are in a strong buying mood, and under ordinary circumstances a large business could have been done both in spot cargo and for arrival. As it is there have been some sales effected for arrival next Spring, but only in special goods, and the transactions could only be arranged by the buyers guaranteeing a much higher rate of exchange than that offered by the Banks here. The general feeling in the market is good and has much improved during the past few days owing to the receipt of better news from Tientsin. American Drills are wanted badly there, being in very short supply, while there is a marked improvement in the enquiry for Sheetings, and it is further rumoured that the commoner qualities of 8.4-lbs. Grey Shirtings are likely to be wanted ere long. There is apparently something in the report as P. M. C. Drills have been recently resold at Tls. 3.50 among dealers and Tls. 3.47½ refused for a fair quantity to be delivered about a month hence. The news from the Newchwang and Chefoo markets remain satisfactory, but Hankow inclines to be quieter again, while Ningpo continues to take supplies in fair quantities.

**Metals.**—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s report.)—28th August:—As usual, during this time of the year, business is extremely unsatisfactory to both buyers and sellers and has been further impeded by the "Free Silver" Politics advocated in the United States. Commercial news from the last named country state they are passing through the worst ordeal it has seen for many years. H.E. Li Tung-chang with his 10 per cent tariff question will no doubt be the next important matter for discussion here and doubtless our Chamber of Commerce will vigorously uphold the non-establishment of same. Chinese are also finding considerable difficulty in financing their goods, the native banks being very chary with their advances. Market remains quiet, with no orders of "spot" sales this week.



## J. Y. V. VERNON'S SHARE REPORT.

**HONGKONG, 1st September.**—The market has ruled steady and business normal during the week under review. I have nothing of any importance to report with the exception of a further substantial rise in Docks and Sugars, both of which have been in good demand without bringing out many sellers. Market generally closes steady to firm.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai after again changing hands at 184½ per cent. prem. declined to 184, at which rate market closes strong with buyers; sales have been few and far between and the market dull. Nationals and Bank of Chinas have continued neglected with no sales at quotations.

**MARINE INSURANCES.**—China Traders after further sales at \$80 improved to \$80½ and \$81½ with sales; very few shares, however, appear to be on the market. Other Marines have ruled dull and neglected with few if any sales at quotations.

**FIRE INSURANCES.**—Chinas found buyers in small lots, in the early part of the week at \$95. Hongkongs have been enquired for in a small way \$332½, but with no shares forthcoming the rate rose to \$335 with sales, which is the closing quotation.

**SHIPPING.**—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have continued weak and after changing hands in fair lots at \$33½ are still obtainable at that rate. Sales have been effected at 34½ January. Indo-Chinas have steadied a little and offers to buy at \$46 have met with but a small response. The recent heavy fall in this stock is attributable to the general depression at present existing in the freight market. China Manilas continue unchanged and without business at \$71 buyers and \$72 sellers. Douglases have been in demand at \$64½ to \$65½, but I have heard of no sales and at time of writing \$65½ is freely offered. China Mutuels continue entirely neglected with sellers and no sales at quotation.

**REFINERIES.**—Chinas Sugars have been in good demand with sales at \$116, \$117, \$118, and \$120, market closing strong with buyers at last rate. Luzons with shares on offer at \$64 failed to maintain their position and can now be obtained at \$63 after small sales at that rate. A rumour that Spain is admitting beet sugar into the country at a reduced rate of duty is chiefly responsible for the weakness.

**MINING.**—Punjoms have continued very quiet with small sales of Ordinaries at \$14 25 and of Preferences at \$3.80. The report of the Mining Manager for July was not as good as usual, and being received with some dissatisfaction, the weakness reported last week has continued. Small sales of Balmorals at \$2½ and of Jelebus at \$2.90 comprise all else I have to report under this heading.

**DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.**—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been in steady demand at rising rates, but with holders unwilling to part but few shares have changed hands and I have only small sales at 185, 186, 188, 189, and 190 per cent. prem. to report. At time of writing shares are wanted at 189, but holders refuse to part under 190. On time buyers have vainly endeavoured to secure shares for all months up to February, but beyond a few small sales at 186 for Oct. and 188 for November I have heard of no business. It has been definitely decided to send the *Gaelic* here for docking and repairs, and she leaves Nagasaki to-day. Kowloon Wharves have continued dull at \$53 without sales. Wanchais are enquired for in a small way at \$45, but holders refuse to part under \$46.

**LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have ruled weaker with sales at \$74 and \$73½ cash and at \$77 for January, closing with buyers and no sellers at \$73½. Small sales of Hotels are reported at \$29 and \$29½, market closing steady at the latter rate. West Points have changed hands in small lots at \$18 and some more small parcels could probably be placed at the same rate. Kowloon Lands and Humphreys Estate have been neglected but steady at quotations.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Islands have further improved to \$17½ with sales. Watsons have changed hands at \$12.75, \$12.90, and \$13, closing with sellers at last rate. Electrics with

sales at \$6.90 and \$7 are still on the market at the latter rate. Ropes have been negotiated at \$125 and are wanted at the rate. Fenwicks have ruled quieter, with no sales, at \$30, with probable sellers. I have nothing else to report under this heading. The Old Dairy Farm Co. has liquidated and a new Company started, particulars of which will be found below.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
<b>Banks—</b>		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	184 ½ prem. =
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£2, buyers
<b>Natl. Bank of China</b>		
B. Shares .....	£8	\$27, sellers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$100
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	nominal
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	\$6, seller
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$6
Carmichael & Co. ....	\$20	\$8
China Sugar .....	\$100	\$120, sal. & buyers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1, buyers
Dairy Farm Co. ....	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$30, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$17½, buyers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$7, sales & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$96
Hongkong Hotel .....	\$50	\$29½, buyers
Hongkong Ice .....	\$25	\$105
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$53½, sellers
Hongkong Rope .....	\$50	\$125, buyers
H. & W. Dock .....	\$125	190 p. ct. prem. =
<b>Insurance—</b>		
Canton .....	\$50	\$195
China Fire .....	\$50	\$95, sellers
China Traders' .....	\$25	\$81½, sales
Hongkong Fire .....	\$50	\$335, sales
North-China .....	£25	Tls. 192½, sellers
Straits .....	\$20	\$27
Union .....	\$25	\$232½, sellers
Yangtze .....	\$60	\$140
<b>Land and Building—</b>		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$73½, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18, sales
Luzon Sugar .....	\$100	\$63, sales & sellers
<b>Mining—</b>		
Charbonnages .....	Fcs. 500	72½
Jelebu .....	\$5	\$2.90, sales
New Balmoral .....	\$3	\$2.25
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$7, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$3.50, sellers
Punjom .....	\$4	\$14, sales & buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.80, sales & sellers
Ranks .....	13s. 10d.	\$5.35
<b>Steamship Coys.—</b>		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$71, buyers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£3, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8.10, sales & sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$35½, buyers
H., Canton and M...	\$15	\$33.25, sal. & sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$46, sales & buyers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$45, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$13, sales & sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

**SHANGHAI, 28th August.**—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—A moderate business has been done during the week; but the heavy settlements for the 31st current have a tendency to cause buyers to hold aloof. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been placed locally at 184 per cent. premium for cash, and 186 per cent. premium for delivery on the 31st current, and 200 per cent. premium for delivery on the 31st January. To Hongkong shares have been sold at 184 and 184½ per cent. premium. Bank of China and Japan.—Deferred shares have been sold, at £2, and are wanted. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been parted with at Tls. 34. China Mutuels are neglected. Docks.—S. C. Farnham & Co. shares have changed hands at Tls. 203 to Tls. 202. Marine Insurance.—North Chinas are offering at Tls. 129½. Yangtszes have changed hands at \$142½ to \$140 for cash, and \$145 for Sep'tember and October delivery. Straits have been placed at \$28 for the 30th September. Fire Insurance.—There is no business to report. Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been dealt in at Tls. 120, and there are buyers at that price, while sellers ask Tls. 122. Mining.—Sheridan shares were sold and are wanted at Tls. 2.50. Sugars.—China Sugar Refining shares have been in demand, and business has been done at \$114 and \$115 for cash, and to Hongkong at \$118 for the 30th proximo. Lands.—Shanghai Land Invest-

ment shares have been placed at Tls. 8½, and are offering. Industrial.—Shares in Major Brothers have been placed at Tls. 4½. Ewo Cotton S. & W. shares have been sold at Tls. 80, and are wanted, while sellers ask Tls. 85. Laou-Kung-mow shares are offering at Tls. 95. Shanghai Ice shares have changed hands at Tls. 155. Miscellaneous.—Business has been done in:—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 100 and \$97½, Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 550, Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Tls. 65, and Hall & Holtz shares at \$36½. Loans.—Shanghai Municipal Debentures were sold, 1893 issue at Tls. 105, and 1896 issue at Tls. 101. Perak Sugar Cultivation Company's Debentures were placed at Tls. 101, and Lyceum Theatre Debentures at Tls. 15. Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—\$356½.  
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$28.  
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$115.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, pref. shares.—Nominal.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—£2.  
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 34.  
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—£8.5.0.  
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. ord. shares.—£3 1s. 6d.  
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$33.  
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$65½.  
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. Nominal.  
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 200.  
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 202.  
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$365.  
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$80½.  
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 192½.  
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$36½.  
Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$140.  
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$193.  
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$27½.  
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$328½.  
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$95.  
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 120.  
Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 55.  
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$54.  
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 2½.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$14.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$3.90.  
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$3.  
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$54.  
Shan mai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 215.  
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 105.  
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 200.  
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 180.  
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 43.  
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$115.  
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$65½.  
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid).—Tls. 80.  
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (Tls. 30 paid).—Tls. 58.  
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$73½.  
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$184.  
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9½.  
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 4½.  
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.  
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 97½.  
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 95.  
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400.  
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 150.  
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 210.  
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 251.  
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 97½.  
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 550.  
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.  
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65.  
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$45.  
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$36½.  
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12.  
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$8.  
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$7.

## CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

TUESDAY, 1st September.

## EXCHANGE.

## ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer ..... 2/1½  
Bank Bills, on demand ..... 2/1½  
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight ..... 2/1½  
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ..... 2/1½  
Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 2/2  
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 2/2½



ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.70
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.74
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.17
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	51½
Credits, 60 days' sight	53
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	182
Bank, on demand	182½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	182
Bank, on demand	182½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	16½ % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	par.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.18
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per taal	48.00

## TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 28th August (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—During the past fortnight there has been a considerable improvement in our freight market, and cargo for New York has been fairly plentiful, with the result that vessels had no difficulty in filling their space allotted here, while for London business is quiet. Our coasting trade is still very depressed, and we believe that several of our local liners have been compelled to accept the unprecedentedly low rate of seven cents from Newchwang to Kobe, and there seems a likelihood of a further decline. For London *via* Suez.—The vessels which have taken their departures have received fair cargoes, but a great deal of improvement is needed yet. For New York *via* Suez.—The steamer *Benmohr* has been with us now for some time, but she has had her reward by receiving her full allotment; she sails to-morrow for Amoy to fill up her vacant space. The steamer *Irion*, due on Sunday, 30th inst., will then be ready to load; after her comes the *Kaisow*. For New York *via* Cape.—The *W. H. Conner*, having received no encouragement to prolong her stay, has left for Hongkong, her berth has been taken by the *Drumellan*, circulated to load at 17s. 6d. per ton, sailing about the end of October. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 3½s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 3½s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; New York, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 40s.; New York *via* London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 45s.; Boston, by Conference Lines, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s.; Philadelphia, by Conference Lines, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 3½s. 6d. net; Hamburg, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 3½s. 6d. net; New York, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Havre direct, general cargo 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net; Marseilles, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail, 17s. 6d.; New York by Pacific Lines, 1½ gold cents per lb. Coast rates are:—Mojito to Shanghai 90 cents nominal per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai 90 cents nominal per ton coal.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Shanghai* (str.), *Formosa* (str.), *Borneo* (str.), *Myrmidon* (str.), *Benlarig* (str.), *Glenfruin* (str.), *Rosetta* (str.), *Tantalus* (str.).  
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Sutlej* (str.), *Belgie* (str.), *China* (str.).  
For HAVRE.—*Flintshire* (str.), *Frigga* (str.).  
For VICTORIA.—*Tacoma* (str.).  
For BREMEN.—*Bayern* (str.).  
For NEW YORK.—*Charles M. Moody*, *Paul Revere*, *Josephus*, *Benmohr* (str.), *Saint Mark*.  
For BALTIMORE.—*Isaac Reed*, *Helen Brewer* (str.).

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

## August—

## ARRIVALS.

27, *Kashing*, British str., from Canton.  
27, *Haitan*, British str., from Coast Ports.  
27, *Benvorlich*, British str., from Singapore.  
27, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., from Canton.  
27, *Taisang*, British str., from Canton.  
27, *Strathallan*, British str., from Hongkong.

27, *Memnon*, British str., from Sandakan.  
27, *Triumph*, German str., from Pakhoi.  
28, *Knight of St. John*, Brit. str., from Moji.  
28, *Zafiro*, British str., from Manila.  
28, *Kansu*, British str., from Canton.  
28, *Phra Chom Klao*, Brit. str., from Bangkok.  
28, *Ariake Maru*, Jap. str., from K'notzu.  
28, *Utrecht*, Dutch str., from Amoy.  
28, *Peiyang*, German str., from Chinkiang.  
28, *Taiyuan*, British str., from Kobe.  
29, *Glensak*, British str., from Swatow.  
29, *Yuensang*, British str., from Manila.  
29, *Britannic*, British str., from Port Vallet.  
29, *Hailoong*, British str., from Tamsui.  
29, *Hongkong*, French str., from Haiphong.  
29, *Progress*, German str., from Quinhon.  
29, *Onsang*, British str., from Moji.  
29, *Wingsang*, British str., from Shanghai.  
29, *Bygdo*, Norw. str., from Newchwang.  
29, *Loyal*, German str., from Bangkok.  
29, *Pakhoi*, British str., from Singapore.  
30, *Ask*, Danish str., from Pakhoi.  
30, *Feiching*, British str., from Canton.  
30, *Phra Nang*, British str., from Bangkok.  
30, *Thales*, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
30, *Dante*, German str., from Singapore.  
31, *Chiuyuen*, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
31, *Suisang*, British str., from Singapore.  
31, *Elax*, British str., from Kobe.  
31, *Irene*, German str., from Hamburg.  
31, *C. H. Kian*, British str., from Singapore.  
31, *Tacoma*, British str., from Tacoma.

## September—

1, *Peiyang*, German str., from Canton.  
1, *Ellen Rickmers*, Ger. str., from Shanghai.  
1, *Yarra*, French str., from Shanghai.  
1, *Natal*, French str., from Marseilles.  
1, *Fausang*, British str., from Shanghai.  
1, *Namoa*, British str., from Coast Ports.  
1, *Maohew*, British str., from Bangkok.  
1, *Strathallan*, British str., from Canton.  
1, *Daphne*, German str., from Vladivostok.  
1, *Diomed*, British str., from Amoy.  
1, *Kungping*, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

## August—

## DEPARTURES.

27, *Mathilde*, German str., for Hoihow.  
27, *Apenrade*, German str., for Saigon.  
27, *Glaucus*, British str., for Amoy.  
27, *Varanna*, British str., for Europe.  
27, *Feiching*, British str., for Canton.  
27, *Adour*, French str., for Saigon.  
27, *Chowtai*, British str., for Bangkok.  
27, *Hiroshima Maru*, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
27, *Kashing*, British str., for Shanghai.  
27, *Nanyang*, German str., for Shanghai.  
27, *Scottish Isles*, British ship, for P. Blakeley (P.S.).

28, *Brand*, Norw. str., for Newcastle.  
28, *Vorwaerts*, German str., for Singapore.  
28, *Ancona*, British str., for Yokohama.  
28, *Hainan*, British str., for Swatow.  
28, *Kansu*, British str., for Shanghai.  
28, *Kwanglee*, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
29, *Peiyang*, German str., for Canton.  
29, *Esmeralda*, British str., for Manila.  
29, *Taisang*, British str., for Swatow.  
30, *Benvorlich*, British str., for Nagasaki.  
30, *Bygdo*, Norw. str., for Canton.  
30, *Glensak*, British str., for London.  
30, *Haitan*, British str., for Swatow.  
30, *Loosok*, British str., for Bangkok.  
30, *Oslo*, Norw. str., for Bangkok.  
30, *Pakshan*, British str., for Swatow.  
30, *Utrecht*, Dutch str., for Singapore.  
30, *Wingsang*, British str., for Canton.  
31, *Britannic*, British str., for Canton.  
31, *Chiuyuen*, Chinese str., for Canton.  
31, *Guthrie*, British str., for Moji.  
31, *Knight of St. John*, Brit. str., for Bombay.  
31, *Taiyuan*, British str., for Australia.

## September—

1, *Ask*, Danish str., for Pakhoi.  
1, *Dante*, German str., for Amoy.  
1, *Feiching*, British str., for Shanghai.  
1, *Hailoong*, British str., for Swatow.  
1, *Hongkong*, French str., for Haiphong.  
1, *Natal*, French str., for Shanghai.  
1, *Pakhoi*, British str., for Shanghai.  
1, *Zafiro*, British str., for Manila.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Haimun*, steamer, from Coast Ports.—Messrs. Goh and Loeh E. Yang, and Master MacKay.  
Per *Monghut*, str., from Bangkok.—Mr. Tatner.

Per *Memnon*, str., from Sandakan.—Mr. Rivers.  
Per *Zafiro*, str., from Manila.—Mr. Blodgett, Mr. and Mrs. Vidal, and Miss Vidal, Mr. and Mrs. de Caldas, and Messrs. Dean and Higgings, botham.

Per *Yuensang*, steamer, from Manila.—Mrs. Rowe and child, Mrs. Burgos and child, and Mrs. Talbot Walker.

Per *Taiyuen*, str., from Kobe &c.—Miss Perry, and Miss Pash.

Per *Hongkong*, str., from Haiphong.—Rev. Cudrey, Messrs. Gantonille, de Cuers de Cogolen, and Brien, Dr. and Mrs. Hill and child.

Per *Wingsang*, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. Bryan, and Mr. and Mrs. McArthur.

Per *Thales*, str., from Taiwanfoo, &c.—Miss Goodridge.

Per *Suisang*, str., from Singapore.—Mrs. Ellwood.

Per *Irene*, str., from Hamburg, &c.—Messrs. Seeger and Böcker.

Per *Tacoma*, str., from Tacoma, &c.—Mr. A. Mensies.

Per *Namoa*, str., from Coast Ports.—Dr. E. Bailey, Mrs. MacHattie and child, Mr. Lok.

Per *Yarra*, str., from Yokohama for Hongkong.—Rev. Musson, Messrs. W. Schelass, E. Oizavva, Cruickbank, Carl, Franz, Urbing, Krinner and child, Schlitting, T. A. Davvlor, Chas Lass, and Miss C. Grandors.

Per *Natal*, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles.—Mr. Speidel, Reva, Liotard, Demarest, Rey, Barriere, and Mazel. From Colombo—Major Lindley. From Singapore—Dr. J. A. T. Tchudzowski, Mr. Hizunie, and Mrs. Okiku. From Saigon—Mr. Frank Long. For Shanghai from Marseilles—Baron C. de Vinck, Reva, Perreau, Etellin, Bourgain, Lambert, Miallon, Thiniou, and Roulland, Mr. and Mrs. Summariva and daughter. From Singapore—Mrs. Otto. For Kobe from Marseilles—Rev. Trimignac. From Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Oltoto, Messrs. Yamanako and Maranusch. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Messrs. Oshima, G. Deiffinger, Zeu, Ono, Kamakidjo, Oialu, Dr. H. Nagaska, Reva, Ballet, Reynaud, Messrs. Chozo Onchi, Toyabe, and Prigent. From Port Said—Mr. Soloyef. From Singapore—Capt. T. S. Johnson, Col. A. Houlett, Mr. E. S. D. Pereira, and Mrs. Suandh. From Saigon—Messrs. Campagnol, Garonne, and Lamore de Lamirande.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Bayern*, str., for Shanghai from Bremen.—Mr. A. Stohr. From Genoa—Capt. Becker. From Naples—Mr. F. Ronge. From Colombo—Mr. Seidlitz. From Hongkong—Messrs. A. Wanderbach and A. Plotz.

Per *Hohenzollern*, str., for Yokohama from Bremen—Messrs. Y. Ito and A. Bolgahn. From Genoa—Messrs. C. Kalkhof and G. Eschenburg. From Hongkong—Messrs. J. Lamke, J. Goosmann, Chas. Rombach, and Dr. Wilm.

Per *Myrmidon*, str., for London—Miss Newman.

Per *Satsuma Maru*, str., for Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Green, Mrs. Bremmen, Messrs. L. Frederick, D. Selwyn, C. Hata, and J. S. Vaughan.

Per *Ravenna*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. D. Muir and child. For Bombay—Messrs. A. Currim Mahomed and T. Tiddick. For Gibraltar—Mrs. M. M. Crespo and 2 children. For Brindisi—Mr. R. C. Hope. For London—Mrs. J. Lewis, Miss J. N. Lewis, Messrs. A. Nelson and J. Hand. From Shanghai for Singapore—Mr. G. Macannalley. For London—Mr. Peter McCann. From Yokohama for Colombo—Mr. Conley. From Nagasaki for London—Capt. A. B. Kundsén, Messrs. Toraldsen, Larsen, Topberg, Hansen, Berntsen, and Christofersen. From Kobe for Singapore—Rev. and Miss W. Clark.

Per *Ancona*, str., from Hongkong for Kobe—Miss Skinner, and Mr. Heroro. For Yokohama—Mr. E. W. Blodgett. From Colombo for Yokohama—Rev. J. S. Matoda, and Rev. K. Hayakawa.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., for Manila—Messrs. Friedrich Harloff and Jose Padrinon, Mrs. Juquina Otero, Messrs. Frederico Casanovas, S. Marouze, and H. F. Morris.

Per *Haitan*, str., for Swatow—Miss Stewart.